

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

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Latin America

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OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY GETS UNDERWAY IN ST LUCIA

Josie Elected Chairman

FL032114 Bridgetown CANA in English 2110 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] Castries, St Lucia, 3 Dec (CANA) -- St Lucia's Foreign Minister Peter Josie was today elected chairman of the 11th General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS) taking place here. Josie's election, which was expected, came this morning during the assembly's first plenary session at the La Toc hotel, just outside of Castries. One of his first acts was to preside over the formal admission of two new member states to the organization: St Vincent and the Grenadines and Antigua-Barbuda, both of which sent observers to the meeting.

Leader of the Jamaica delegation, Cherrie Orr, speaking after the admission of St Vincent and the Grenadines said it was his country's belief that the more members there were in the OAS "the better the organization will function." Several other delegation heads spoke in favor of the admission of the new member states.

Josie's Opening Speech

FL030147 Bridgetown CANA in English 0015 GMT 3 Dec 81

[By Guy Ellis]

[Text] Castries, Saint Lucia, 2 Dec (CANA) -- Saint Lucia's Foreign Minister Peter Josie tonight sounded a note of warning to aid donors with a declaration that the English-speaking Caribbean would never compromise its principles in its international relations. Addressing the opening session of the 11th General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS) here, Mr Josie also said that Caribbean people were a proud people and "the philosophy of the mendicant is an abomination to us notwithstanding centuries of colonialism and neo-colonialism."

Attending the General Assembly are foreign ministers of nearly all 27-member states of the OAS, including United States Secretary of State Alexander Haig who heard Mr Josie's tough no-nonsense statement mere hours after he had arrived here.

The Saint Lucian foreign minister started out by acknowledging various forms of assistance made to Saint Lucia by friendly countries in the hemisphere in recent years. Quoting late Prime Minister Dr Eric Williams of Trinidad and Tobago, he declared: "Let us not have traded our independence for any aspect of neocolonialism".

The outspoken Saint Lucia minister added: "We do not wish to be reminded of any input into our area in terms of what we are expected to pay for it. If there is a payment forthcoming, then inform us before the gift is given and not after. We demand the right to refuse any offer of assistance after having considered the conditions of the offer in relation to our own interests. We will not be deterred by recriminations from any quarter nor shall we accept unsolicited advice on how we ought to conduct our foreign policy.

"We maintain that aid must be uncompromising and unconditional. We will judge the legitimacy of the interest of the donors and will treat them with the spirit of their donations. But we will never compromise our principles or what we believe to be just and fair in our international relations. The respect that a donor state deserves in our view is determined by the righteousness of its cause and the legitimacy of its interests."

Mr Josie said the Caribbean "totally and unconditionally rejects the beggar's posture" and believed that, given the proper opportunities, they could marshal their resources to achieve a more satisfactory level of economic existence and well-being for their people.

Mr Josie also made a plea on behalf of the small island states of the OAS calling on the larger member countries which had received aid and assistance in their early years as OAS members, to now do likewise for the smaller territories. As to the General Assembly itself, Mr Josie said: "The economically weaker among us who still believe essentially in logic and the spirit of cooperation and interdependence must leave this conference with renewed hope and confidence in the OAS. This conference must mark the beginning of a new awareness and must chart a new course in the murky waters of this hemisphere. Our membership today embraces a substantial number of island states. The strength of this conference will be measured on how we are able to satisfy their needs through cooperation in the fields of economic and social activities and the efforts that come from realizing that we are a band of brothers, small and large, united in our efforts to work for a lasting and meaningful peace which future generations shall jealously guard and willingly defend."

The first plenary session of the 10-day meeting takes place tomorrow morning.

Bird's Addresses

FLO32024 Bridgetown CANA in English 1815 GMT 3 Dec 81

[By Guy Ellis]

[Text] Castries, St Lucia, 3 Dec (CANA) -- Antigua's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Lester Bird today called for a North-South cooperation initiative in the Americas by the Organization of American States (OAS) whereby the rich member-nations could respond to the economic plight of the poorer ones. Addressing the OAS General Assembly now in session here, after his country was admitted to membership by acclamation along with St Vincent and the Grenadines, Bird also said that the Caribbean would never be a zone of peace unless there was a determination among countries to maintain such peace.

The admission of the two new member countries was one of the highlights of the General Assembly's first plenary session this morning following yesterday's formal opening. Their membership brought to eight the strength of the English-speaking Caribbean countries in the 29-member inter-American organization.

Bird said Antigua and Barbuda was gratified at its admission to the OAS because it now had the opportunity "to correct the mistakes of the past by joining with our colleagues from the English-speaking Caribbean to create understanding and establish brotherhood with our neighbors in Latin America." The need for the OAS had never been more vital, Bird said, adding that the region had entered the 1980's with the world tottering on the edge of global instability while "some countries have adopted inflexible positions on questions of ideology."

He declared: "The global economic crisis continues with little sign of abating and some of our countries have become victims of externally created recession and inflation. In these conditions, the need for a solid front by the countries of our area is urgent if we are to withstand the pressures of the international environment. Those pressures are both of a political and economic nature and they promise nothing short of calamity if they are ignored."

Bird detailed some of the problems of small island states: vulnerability to the vicissitudes of trade, lack of basic infrastructural development necessary for the attraction of investment, problems of security and added: "In short, for many of these countries development is a nearly impossible dream and poverty a recurring nightmare. How, in the light of this reality, can the OAS claim to be a grouping of nations committed to each others welfare if rich nations among us pay little attention to the poor?" Bird noted that the OAS embraced the Americas "in the north and the south" and said it was therefore in a unique position to demonstrate how the North could be helpful to the South. Further, he suggested that the measure of OAS effectiveness "is the response of its rich members to the plight of its poorest," adding that there could be little doubt that the OAS would fulfill an important role "if it mounts an economic and social program funded by its richer members to address the problems of the states most affected by external economic pressures."

By doing so, Bird said, the OAS would serve as a model to others to create a world where economic cooperation between North and South redressed the imbalances of the international economic system and contributed to a better quality of life for the poor and disadvantaged.

He recalled the resolution adopted by the OAS in Bolivia in October 1979 declaring the Caribbean a zone of peace and said Antigua and Barbuda, while strongly supporting that declaration, recognized "that peace is neither maintained by a mere show of hands nor by words inscribed on parchment." Peace, Bird said, was maintained "by the will of nations to desist from conflict and from carnage. In that context, the Caribbean will never be a zone of peace unless there exists a determination among our countries to maintain such peace. And it is not sufficient for us to call on the big powers to respect our region as a zone of peace. We also have to demonstrate our commitment to peaceful coexistence by settling our own quarrels, by eschewing military solutions to political problems and turning instead to the conference table and to the language of diplomacy." Bird said that in the search for peace in the Caribbean and for conditions necessary for progress and economic development of the region as a whole, OAS member states appeared to have constrained themselves by the very rules which governed this organization. He referred to Article eight of the OAS Charter which prohibited membership to Guyana and Belize (because they both have territorial disputes with member states) "yet these countries are part of our community." This he felt was an incongruity inconsistent with the aims of the treaty prohibiting nuclear weapons in Latin America and with the ideals of the OAS itself.

Several Ministers Speak

FL032348 Bridgetown CANA in English 2343 GMT 3 Dec 81

[By Orlando Lizama]

[Text] Castries, St Lucia, 3 Dec (CANA-REUTER) -- Latin American foreign ministers urged member nations today to reinvigorate the troubled Organization of American States (OAS). The foreign minister of Chile, Peru and Brazil addressed the OAS General Assembly at the start of a 13-day conference. By the time they finished speaking, the ceremonies were running behind schedule. U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig, attending his first OAS General Assembly, had to postpone his speech until tomorrow.

Brazilian Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro said there was a growing imbalance between the needs of member countries and the financial resources of the OAS, which was founded 33 years ago.

Chilean Foreign Minister Rene Rojas said the OAS was undergoing a deep crisis, adding that greater cooperation was necessary to give it new vitality. He said that Chile would continue to support the OAS but added that "political conveniences cannot justify the OAS interference in the internal affairs of countries." Diplomatic sources said this was an apparent reference to Bolivia's claim to an outlet to the sea between Chile and Peru, an issue which Chile has refused to discuss at other OAS meetings. Bolivia lost coastal territory to both countries after a war last century.

Peruvian Foreign Minister Javier Arias Stella referred to the turbulent situation in Central America which he partially blamed on faults in the organization's aid mechanism.

The two Caribbean island-states of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Antigua-Barbuda joined the OAS today, bringing its membership to 28.

U.S. Caribbean Plan Rejected

FL040018 Bridgetown CANA in English 2358 GMT 3 Dec 81

[By Guy Ellis]

[Text] Castries, St Lucia, 3 Dec (CANA) -- The 11th General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS) ended an uneventful first working day here tonight with delegates still to hear U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig.

Mr Haig was originally scheduled to address this morning's opening plenary session but because of a late start, he, along with representatives of four other countries, were slated to speak in the post-luncheon session.

But while the afternoon gathering heard policy statements from the foreign ministers of Brazil, Peru, St Lucia, Chile and Venezuela, Mr Haig remained silent throughout the long session which started some 75 minutes behind schedule. There was no official explanation for Haig's silence but conference sources said he would now address the General Assembly tomorrow morning.

During the afternoon, Mr Haig heard criticisms of aspects of the proposed Caribbean basin initiative being sponsored by the United States, Mexico, Canada and Venezuela from St. Lucia's permanent representative to the OAS Dr Barry Auguste. Auguste, speaking in place of Foreign Minister Peter Josie who was earlier elected chairman for the assembly, said small Caribbean states might appear to be "somewhat apprehensive of the basin concept" because they realized that their developmental needs "may well be lost or reduced in consequence to that contained in the larger basin perspective." Auguste noted too that in the many months since its inscription, "not a word has been stated to alleviate and or reduce that apprehension."

The first working day of the 10-day conference started today with the admission of St Vincent and the Grenadines and Antigua-Barbuda by acclamation to the organization, bringing its membership to 29 states [as received] in Latin America and the Caribbean. Both countries were represented at the meeting by observer delegations which addressed the session.

Earlier, the session formalized a number of decisions taken at a preparatory meeting of the General Committee. These related mainly to procedural matters for the duration of the General Assembly and the formal adoption of the conference agenda.

In the afternoon, chairmen were appointed to the four committees which will deal with the 38-item agenda during the meeting.

The Dominican Republic will chair the important juridical and political committee which will consider such burning issues as a St Lucia-sponsored proposal calling for amendment of the OAS Charter to allow membership of Guyana and Belize which are now debarred because of border disputes with OAS member states, Venezuela and Guatemala respectively.

D'ESCOTO REPORTS ON HAIG MEETING IN ST LUCIA

PA031241 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0231 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Excerpt] Castries, St Lucia, 2 Dec (LATIN-REUTER) -- Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto and U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig met here tonight without yielding an inch in their antagonistic positions regarding the Central American situation. This situation was manifested in the statements which both offered to newsmen following the talk which lasted approximately 30 minutes. Both are attending the OAS General Assembly sessions which opened this afternoon on this Antilles island.

According to d'Escoto, Haig reiterated during the talks the charge that Nicaragua has become a launching pad for arms to the Salvadoran leftwing guerrillas and warned that measures would be taken in this respect. "Haig repeated his charges but was unable to produce evidence to this effect and noted that the United States cannot tolerate an intervention and would feel justified in taking reciprocal measures," according to d'Escoto.

In his conversation with U.S. newsmen, however, Haig did not allude to the alleged threat disclosed implicitly by d'Escoto.

For his part, the Nicaraguan foreign minister charged that, by lending economic and military support to the Salvadoran Government, which is fighting the leftwing guerrillas intent on overthrowing it, the United States is the only country that is intervening directly in Central America. "How can the United States, which has traditionally intervened in the area, accuse us of intervention?" the Nicaraguan foreign minister asked.

The U.S. Secretary of State has accused Nicaragua of leaning toward totalitarianism in eliminating labor unions, censoring the press, arresting businessmen and increasing their military apparatus. D'Escoto admitted that his country is increasing its military power in case of an emergency. "We are improving our military capacity in order to repel any threat," he noted.

The Nicaraguan foreign minister said that the meeting had been useful and that perhaps there may be another meeting during the OAS sessions which adjourn on Friday 11th. He added that during his meeting with Haig he expressed his concern over the U.S. policy toward Central America and "the implications of verbal terrorism and the use of threats of a possible invasion against Nicaragua."

Radio Sandino Report

PA031333 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] Yesterday Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto met with U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig in what was the first high-level meeting between Nicaragua and the United States in recent times.

The d'Escoto-Haig meeting, which lasted more than 90 minutes, occurred within the framework of the 11th period of sessions of the OAS in St Lucia. The talks dealt with several aspects of the relations between the two countries. U.S. insistence on threatening Nicaragua over the alleged intervention in the affairs of other countries was noted in the meeting. However, the language used by the Yankee secretary of state was less strident than that which we are used to hearing. In essence, however, it wasn't very different, as Foreign Minister d'Escoto noted. As is known, the United States plans to reiterate the accusations it has made against our process during the past few months.

The fact that this meeting took place breaks the Reagan administration's stand of not establishing direct contact with the revolutionary authorities. Although Foreign Minister d'Escoto said he did not venture to view those talks as a dialogue, he said that they did approach dialogue. Each minister expressed his viewpoint. Foreign Minister d'Escoto said he noted in Haig a willingness to listen to what he had to say. As for the rest, this was the first meeting between the foreign ministers and the expectations of newsmen and observers are now centered around Haig's speech scheduled for this afternoon in St Lucia.

L.A. FOREIGN MINISTERS END SELA MEETING

FL030201 Bridgetown CANA in English 2223 GMT 2 Dec 81

[By Kevin Dunn]

[Text] Panama City, 2 Dec (CANA-REUTER) -- Fourteen Latin American foreign ministers, preparing for a Pan-American conference, today declared firm opposition to U.S. economic policies and demanded a better deal from their powerful northern neighbor. At a 2-day meeting, the ministers and representatives of 12 other countries of the subcontinent approved a declaration aimed at increasing Latin America's bargaining power with the United States.

The ministers left Panama soon after for Castries, capital of the Caribbean island of St Lucia, to attend the General Assembly of the Organisation of American States (OAS).

The United States is the major market for Latin American products and raw materials but the region suffers a 15 billion dollar trade deficit with the United States. The meeting was the first at foreign minister level of the Latin American Economic System (SELA), set up 6 years ago to promote regional unity and coordinate policies. The meeting, scheduled to end yesterday evening, finally broke up at 0500 hours (1000 GMT), delaying the delegates departure for St Lucia.

In Castries, St Lucia, Foreign Minister Peter Josie has criticized U.S. human rights policy as one of the most negative aspects of American diplomacy. Mr Josie, who will preside over the OAS meeting starting later today, told a news conference last night that President Reagan's administration was trying to be the "big bully" of the Caribbean and Central America. He scoffed at U.S. fears of an extended Cuban influence in the area, saying: "The only fear we have is that Cuba will go back into tourism in a big way." U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig is expected at the meeting to warn of what the United States sees as a communist threat to the Americas.

The conflict in El Salvador and Cuba's alleged influence on leftist Nicaragua are not officially on the agenda and Mr Josie said: "There are more important matters to be dealt with now, such as economic cooperation and technical assistance." He acknowledged however, that the issue would be informally analyzed.

The Latin American ministers' declaration accused the United States of a reluctance to enter multilateral negotiations with the Third World and said private foreign investment, favored by President Reagan, should not be considered as international aid. The ministers demanded free access to the U.S. market for Latin American products. They objected to high U.S. interest rates, which increase their foreign debt burden, and called on Washington to channel more aid through international agencies. Officials said the Latin American states would continue their diplomatic offensive against the United States at the OAS meeting.

Canal Treaty Resolution

PA031757 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 3 Dec 81 pp 68, D-12

[Resolution issued by the SELA consultative meeting in Panama City on 1 December]

[Text] The foreign ministers, ministers, deputy foreign ministers and high-level officials of the member states of SELA who participated in the consultation meeting to examine the economic relations between Latin America and the United States held in Panama City on 30 November and 1 December 1981.

Whereas:

The Panama Canal is vital waterway for communication and commerce in the world, particularly the Latin American countries;

The Latin American countries have viewed with concern the difficulties that Panama has pointed out regarding the fulfillment of the 1977 Panama Canal treaty signed with the U.S. Government;

In accordance with the 1977 Panama Canal Treaty the United States must maintain and turn over to Panama in the year 1999 the canal in adequate condition for interoceanic transit;

The good relations between the United States and Panama are an essential element in guaranteeing international harmony and cooperation which, in turn, are essential conditions for guaranteeing the efficient management and operation of the canal;

During the negotiation phase, the Latin American countries unanimously supported the aspirations of the Panamanian people and government;

The chiefs of state and government and representatives of the Latin American nations who attended the ceremony for the signing of the Panama Canal Treaty on 7 September 1979, signed, along with other states, on that same date the Washington Declaration in which they state that "the solution of the Panama Canal issue represents an important step toward strengthening the relations among the nations of the hemisphere, based on common interests of equality and mutual respect of the sovereignty and independence on states."

They declare that:

1. They express their support for the efforts that the Panamanian Government is carrying out before the United States so that all parts of the Panama Canal treaties will be fulfilled.
2. They express their concern over the events that Panama has pointed out.
3. They recognize the importance that the Panama Canal and its efficient operation have for the growing Latin American commerce.
4. They express their belief that implementation of these treaties in good faith is essentially important for the sovereign development of Panama and for the economic and commercial activity of the region and that therefore, its achievement involves Latin American solidarity.

This declaration will be presented for the consideration of SELA's Latin American Economic Council in its next regular meeting.

COPPPAL ISSUES PANAMA DECLARATION AFTER MEETING

PA031554 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 30 Nov 81 pp B-1, D-18

[Panama Declaration issued by the Permanent Conference of Latin American Political Parties, COPPPAL, in Panama City on 27 November -- upper case indicates boldface in text]

[Text] INTRODUCTION

We, the members of COPPPAL, met in Panama City on 26 and 27 November to fulfill the agreements reached during the meeting held in Mexico City on 12 October 1981 and reviewed the following topics:

1. The situation prevailing in Latin America, particularly in the Central American and Caribbean area;
2. The results of the meeting on cooperation for development held recently in Cancun; and,
3. The status of and compliance with the Torrijos-Carter treaties on the Panama Canal.

We register our gratitude to the Panamanian people and government for their hospitality and courtesy, especially to President Aristides Royo and the Revolutionary Democratic Party, which draws inspiration from and was organized in accordance with the ideas of Brig Gen Omar Torrijos Herrera.

We stress that this is the first conference to be held after the biannual meeting held on 12 October. The meeting also coincides with the transfer of COPPPAL's presidency from Javier Garcia Paniagua to Pedro Ojeda Paullada, incumbent chairman of the National Executive Committee of Mexico's Institutional Revolutionary Party.

The deliberations and proceedings at the conference took place in accordance with the framework established at the organizational meeting held in Oaxaca, which continues to be the basis of the organization and fulfills the Bolivarian ideas that prompted its creation.

We stress the need to open a new stage in the consolidation of the conference, which should be geared toward the search for a more active development of our political activities and the goal of bolstering already existing democracies and strengthening our struggle to make democracy, freedom and social justice prevail on our continent.

1. THE SITUATION PREVAILING IN LATIN AMERICA, PARTICULARLY IN CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN.

COPPPAL expresses its concern over the political situation in the Central American area. A climate of aggression and threats is currently developing against the -- revolutionary -- [punctuation as published] democratic process taking place in the region, with attempts to justify this by arguments that do not reflect the situation. The processes of change in Central America result from a situation of poverty and exploitation and from the existence and spread of dictatorial political methods.

In this sense, COPPPAL reasserts the validity of nonintervention and self-determination as guiding principles in international relations, which must be fully respected. We are also convinced that there can be no political stability and that no democratic process can be created without parallel actions in the economic and social fields and without tackling the foundations of inequality at their roots.

Any proposal of an international nature and any other concerted action to solve the region's economic problems must be based on the following premises:

1. No conditions must be imposed in regard to regional economic cooperation;
2. Cooperation may not be restrictive; that is, it may not exclude any of the countries that are part of the Central American and Caribbean region;
3. Aid funneled toward these goals must not involve arms or be of a military nature; and
4. The countries receiving the contribution must set the priorities and the areas in which the agreed upon effort will be channeled.

COPPPAL has noted with great concern the threats and preparations for military intervention on the part of the U.S. Government, particularly against Cuba, Nicaragua, Grenada and El Salvador. This attitude demonstrated by the U.S. Government does not contribute to the search for political and peaceful solutions to the current critical situation.

Under the present circumstances, detente is the primary condition necessary to finding a positive solution to the crisis. The intensification and frequency of declarations and statements of intent only worsen the problem, darken outlooks and keep possible paths and options from being determined and reviewed. It would be advisable to establish a sort of verbal truce, in order to create a climate different from the current one, without affecting, of course, the actions or the continuity of ongoing revolutionary political processes in these nations, as well as the paths toward understanding and solutions.

COPPPAL believes that the most effective and humanitarian thing to do in the Salvadoran conflict is to adopt a political solution -- based on the recognition of the Revolutionary Democratic Front -- FMLN as one of the parties involved in the conflict -- and not the military tactic of exterminating the people disguised under the promise of elections.

The delegates took note of the motion recently presented at the United Nations by Algeria, Denmark, France, Greece, the Netherlands, Ireland, Mexico, Sweden and Yugoslavia stressing the systematic and repeated violations of human rights in El Salvador. The motion asks that human rights be respected in El Salvador. It asks both sides to seek a negotiated political solution to achieve peace and establish -- in an atmosphere free of intimidation and terror -- a government expressing the free will of the Salvadoran people. The conference concurs with the draft resolution and asks all governments to approve it in the international forums in which it is presented.

The conference expresses its support of the convoking of the "Latin American conference for peace and self-determination in El Salvador" organized by the Latin American Human Rights Association (ALAHU).

This conference is to be held in Lima on 19 and 20 January 1982 with the participation of democratic forces and prominent figures of Latin America, the United States, and Canada.

Within this context, the conference expresses hope in the electoral process being held in Honduras. It asks the Honduran Government to be neutral regarding the area's situation, thereby helping to bring peace to the area.

COPPPAL once again expresses its confidence in the Nicaraguan revolutionary process and recognizes the permanent efforts it is making to guarantee a democratic and pluralist system.

In particular, it recognizes the newly announced call for national unity, the bill on the functioning of political parties, and the return to the State Council of some opposition parties which had withdrawn from this council.

COPPPAL expresses its concern over the lack of democratic conditions in Guatemala for the holding of elections in March 1982.

The holding of elections -- under conditions of total repression, lack of a legally formed opposition, absolute lack of pluralism, and violations of human rights, as stated in the recent report issued by the OAS Human Rights Commission -- only leads to the deterioration of the critical situation in Guatemala, and in Central America in general.

COPPPAL expresses its support for and solidarity with the Democratic Socialist Party and the honest sectors of the United Revolutionary Front and other organizations, which have stated that, in view of the lack of democratic conditions, they will not participate in the electoral farce being staged by the Guatemalan dictatorship.

The conference recognizes the continuation of the democratizing process in Panama, and supports the institutions created by the revolutionary process started by Gen Omar Torrijos. It hails the continuation of Torrijist policies and its program of national liberation and development, now led by President Aristides Royo.

COPPPAL expresses its conviction that the Haitian people have the right to free themselves of the dictatorship that has repressed them for the last 24 years. It also rejects the patrolling by U.S. Naval forces of Haitian territorial waters to prevent the flight of citizens fleeing from repression, and thereby covertly supporting the Duvalier regime.

COPPPAL reaffirms its firm and unswerving support for the independence of Puerto Rico and its solidarity with the Independence Party. It reiterates its demand to the UN General Assembly that it include the discussion of Puerto Rico's colonial case in its 1982 agenda and declare that its independence represents the only truly decolonizing solution for that fraternal Latin American people.

COPPPAL also expresses its support and endorsement of the revolutionary process in Grenada and of that country's New Jewel Movement.

COPPPAL resolves that the political, social and economic problems affecting the Southern Cone countries which, like Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay, Uruguay and Brazil are subjected to dictatorial or authoritarian governments, and against which various mass processes and struggles emerging to reestablish democracy are currently developing, be especially considered at one of its next meetings.

COPPPAL reiterates its condemnation of the repressive dictatorship existing in Argentina and expresses its solidarity with the Argentine people's struggle for democracy, which was manifested through the recent mobilizations of its workers and students and through the points of concurrence reached by the political parties that comprise the so-called Multiparty.

Once again, COPPPAL rejects the permanent and repeated human rights violations in Chile, the repression and expulsions and the dictatorship's refusal to recognize the right to live in the fatherland. As a result of that, it recommends that the democratic governments reiterate their condemnation at the present session of the UN General Assembly.

It also notes that the economic model implemented by the dictatorship by Pinochet has failed. This is causing the bankruptcy of numerous large businesses and the imprisonment of the high-ranking executives of a number of commercial banks.

Finally, it urges all democratic forces to redouble their combative solidarity in favor of the antifascist parties and labor unions currently struggling in Chile and in favor of the Chileans who live in exile.

COPPPAL demands, in Bolivia, the reestablishment of democracy and the respect for the constitutional rights of the Bolivian people and expresses its wholehearted and revolutionary solidarity with the workers, especially the miners, for the struggle that they are carrying out in the country's interior.

COPPPAL will remain vigilant over the current process of this struggle in which the workers are participating with the support of the other democratic and antifascist forces of Bolivia. It is also willing to give its active solidarity to prevent repressive violence against the workers and their people who are again determined to peacefully transfer from dictatorship to democracy. It takes into account the serious charge of the violation of human rights of the relatives of Bolivian political leaders.

In conclusion, COPPPAL takes it upon itself to denounce the pacts among the dictatorships to prevent democratic development.

COPPPAL greets the first year of the plebiscite held in Uruguay on 30 November 1980 which was a defeat for its dictatorial government and support for the struggle undertaken by its political and labor forces to restore democracy.

COPPPAL observes with special interest the democratization process underway in Brazil and wishes good luck to the antidictatorial parties that will participate in the upcoming elections, particularly the Brazilian Labor Party.

2. DEVELOPMENT AND RESULTS OF THE MEETING ON COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT HELD IN CANCUN, MEXICO

In evaluating the international meeting on cooperation and development held in Cancun, Mexico in October, COPPPAL:

Believed that the Cancun meeting represents a great effort to reactivate international economic negotiations. This meeting was held thanks to the political will of President Jose Lopez Portillo whom COPPPAL congratulates for his valuable initiative;

Stressed the importance of the meeting as a new political formula for the dialogue and international economic negotiation and suggested the use of this new system, at the level of chief of state and government, to solve the problems of international cooperation for development;

Recognized that the meeting represented a first basic step to establish political conditions that will permit the reorganization of an international economic system which no longer responds to contemporary needs and interests of developing countries;

Recommended the implementation of efficient international action to guarantee that the political will expressed by the chiefs of state and government in Cancun will become a reality and will be carried out punctually;

Recommended, especially, that the Cancun agreement on the initiation of a series of worldwide negotiations be implemented soon, urging all UN member states to make its agreement a reality;

Urged the compliance with the Cancun agreements in order to guarantee self-sufficiency in the food supply and farm development in the nonindustrialized countries, rational use of and overall planning regarding energy.

The establishment of new international trade rules which will satisfy the interests of developing countries as well as reform the monetary and financial order to implement a true transfer of resources to the nonindustrialized countries thus lightening the burden of the foreign debt of these nations;

Stressed the need to reallocate the resources absurdly devoted to the arms race to economic development;

Urged unions and other political organizations of a democratic vocation to boost the actions of the Cancun meeting to implement a new international economic order;

Recognized the basic role that the Latin American Economic System (SELA) plays in the political and economic integration of the area and issues a call to strengthen SELA's function in the implementation of the Cancun agreements.

3. THE STATE AND THE COMPLIANCE WITH THE TORRIJOS-CARTER TREATIES

COPPPAL expresses its concern over the problems that have arisen because of the violation of the Panama Canal treaties. The conference recalled that these treaties became a reality through the solidarity of the peoples of the world, particularly the Latin American people; therefore, we are equally responsible for their faithful implementation and observance.

COPPPAL rejects any alteration of what was agreed to in the Torrijos-Carter treaties and supports Panamanian right to full sovereignty and jurisdiction over the canal area and the reversion of the canal to Panama as stipulated in the treaties.

COPPPAL agrees to promote Latin American activities of solidarity with Panama and to demand the prompt and radical revision of Law 96-70 so that it may be adjusted to the letter and spirit of the Torrijos-Carter treaties.

As an annex to this declaration we have agreed to attach the document which the conference drafted regarding the situation of the implementation of the Torrijos-Carter treaties.

COPPPAL, in responding to an invitation of the FSLN of Nicaragua, agreed to hold its next meeting in Managua in February 1982.

THE SITUATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF THE TORRIJOS-CARTER TREATIES

COPPPAL member parties and organizations express their concern over the problems that are being caused regarding the implementation of the Panama Canal treaties. As Latin Americans, we feel that the Torrijos-Carter treaties have major international value, since they prove that the most serious consequences of colonialism may be corrected through negotiations and that justice can be achieved in international relations. We are also aware that those treaties became reality through the solidarity of peoples all over the world and particularly, the solidarity of the Latin American peoples and governments. Therefore, we feel equally committed to their strict enforcement.

By means of the Torrijos-Carter treaties the Panamanian nation and people were able to fully recover 2/3 of their national territory that was formerly occupied by a foreign power. Panama also recovered its full sovereignty and jurisdiction over part of the remaining territory, as well as the right to a more direct and increased participation in the canal's management; administration and protection. Panama was also able to initiate a decolonization program through which the country will progressively assume greater responsibility with respect to the canal area and its installations, something which is tied to the gradual withdrawal of U.S. troops still occupying some of the area. The last foreign soldier will definitely be leaving Panama at the end of 1999. Meanwhile, these U.S. troops and officials are subject to Panamanian law and jurisdiction.

Through the Torrijos-Carter treaties, the Panamanian nation is receiving direct and indirect economic benefits from canal operations, in some cases benefits greater than those it previously received. In addition, greater opportunities are being made available to Panamanians, whose participation at all levels of canal's operation continues to grow.

Yet, above all, Panama achieved an extraordinary affirmation of its national dignity, territorial integrity and sovereign independence, a fact which makes all Latin America proud.

All Latin Americans consider these victories our own; they consider them a fundamental contribution to the independence, integrity and sovereignty of each of our countries.

Nevertheless, unjustifiable difficulties are cropping up in the implementation and enforcement of those treaties, difficulties which none of us can accept. The enemies of fair treatment for Latin America in the U.S. Congress unilaterally introduced the so-called Law 96-70, which openly contradicts the intention, letter and spirit of the agreement between Panama and the United States. Through that illegal law, which was at the time denounced by the Panamanian Government, numerous violations to the Torrijos-Carter treaties have been committed. These violations offend the dignity, sovereignty and interests of the Panamanian people and of all the Latin American peoples who, with their solidarity, endorsed these documents.

Through that law, the role of the Binational Commission which should administer the canal has been unjustifiably reduced; some of its main functions have been transferred to the U.S. executive and congress, thereby excluding the Panamanians from the making of fundamental decisions which are then implemented in their country. The authority of U.S. federal laws and organizations within territory that is under exclusive Panamanian jurisdiction has also been introduced; wage and social security regulations which discriminate have been adopted. These regulations go against the legitimate rights of Panamanian workers, who are the ones that make canal's operation possible.

Panama has shown the willingness to correct the violations through legal and friendly means. However, it is coming up against the insensibility and arrogance of U.S. congressmen and authorities, who are deliberately ignoring what was agreed in the Torrijos-Carter treaties.

It is our duty to widely inform our peoples that this situation is being created, because such an attitude may eventually lead to new causes of conflict which, aside from constituting unnecessary injustices, would be detrimental to canal's operation, would seriously damage the economies of Latin America and other nations and would create a new point of international tension where we thought problems had already been overcome.

COPPPAL rejects any alteration of what was agreed to in the Torrijos-Carter treaties and supports the Panamanian right to the fullest sovereignty and jurisdiction over the canal area and to the full recovery of it by Panama, in accordance to the provisions of the treaties. Therefore, in addition to informing our peoples of this, all of COPPPAL's member parties and organizations have agreed to institute Latin American days or trips of solidarity with Panama to demand the prompt and radical revision of Law 96-70 so that it may be adjusted to the spirit and letter of the Torrijos-Carter treaties. COPPPAL has also decided to prepare to mobilize our forces in support of Panama whenever the Panamanians so request it.

INTERNAL AGREEMENT

During the course of its meeting, COPPPAL received a petition from the relatives of Panamanian citizens under arrest in Colombian jails.

In view of that situation, it recommended that the governments of Panama and Colombia try, within a spirit of cooperation and political good will, to find a solution to the problem.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON PRESIDENT VIOLA'S HEALTH

Viola's Cineangiocardiology

PY031725 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] The Public Information Secretariat made public a communique this morning regarding the president's hospitalization. It states that according to earlier information, Gen Roberto Eduardo Viola entered the Guemes Sanatorium today at 0945, in order to undergo a cineangiocardiology to complete his medical check-up. The communique mentioned that he will reportedly remain in the hospital until tomorrow.

'By-Pass' Recommended

PY040117 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0055 GMT 4 Dec 81

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 3 Dec (NA) -- Reliable sources tonight reported that after the x-ray examination to which the president of the nation was submitted today by his medical team, some of the members of this team recommended "by-pass" [given in English] surgery to overcome the obstruction noted in one of his arteries. Among those doctors who recommended "by-pass" surgery is heart surgeon Rene Favaloro, whose professional advice has been requested for the tests carried out at the Guemes Sanitarium today.

Viola Refusal

PY040215 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0152 GMT 4 Dec 81

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 3 Dec (NA) -- Highly reliable sources tonight reported that President Roberto Viola has apparently refused to undergo the double "by-pass" surgery recommended to overcome the severe coronary obstruction from which he is suffering and has chosen a different treatment in order to avoid surgery.

VIDELA, GALTIERI CONSULT AS SPECULATION ABOUNDS

PY030255 Buenos Aires HERALD in English 2 Dec 81 p 11

[Excerpts] (NA) -- The Armed Forces Political Commission (COMIPOL) presented reports on "the progress of the country's return to democratic norms" at the military junta's weekly meeting, yesterday, military sources said. The three-man junta and member-designate, Brigadier Basilio Lami Dozo, who will replace Air Force Commander-in-Chief Omar Graffigna on 17 December, spent the remainder of the 3-hour meeting discussing political developments and their relation to President Roberto Viola's recovery from heart trouble.

The meeting was scheduled to start at 9 am but was delayed for 1 hour due to an impromptu visit paid by former President Jorge Videla on army commander-in-chief, General Leopoldo Galtieri, at his office. Videla, a close friend of Viola's, has visited him twice since last week at the presidential residence in Olivos. The exact aims of Videla's presence in Olivos and at Galtieri's office yesterday morning is causing speculation among political observers, who predict a fight for the presidency between Galtieri and Viola, should the president fully recover.

A military committee meeting -- which includes the junta and interim President Horacio Liendo -- is expected to be scheduled for Thursday or Friday of this week, military sources said.

Government House officials yesterday commented that the new medical report indicates that Viola is recovering favorably and were optimistic that he would soon return to work.

GENERAL GALTIERI RESHUFFLES ARMY HIGH COMMAND

PY040004 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2318 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Dec (NA) -- Military sources here today reported that the army commander in chief today assembled the Army High Command for 1982. Maj Gen Jose Antonio Vaquero has been kept on as chief of the General Staff and almost all corps commanders have been changed, which means that five generals will retire.

Although no official information has been released so far, it is known that the current commanders of I and V Corps headquartered in Palermo and Bahia Blanca, respectively, Maj Gen Antonio Domingo Bussi and Maj Gen Jose Rogelio Villareal will retire along with Maj Gen Reynaldo B. Bignone, commander of military institutes; Maj Gen Eduardo Crespi, head of military industries; and Maj Gen Carlos A. Martinez, state information secretary.

Maj Gen Cristino Nicolaidis, current commander of the III [Army] Corps, (Cordoba), has been appointed commander of the I Corps, while the III Corps will now be commanded by Maj Gen Eugenio Guanabens Perello.

Maj Gen Juan Carlos Trimarco, current commander of the II Corps headquartered in Rosario has been confirmed while Maj Gen Llamil Reston will be appointed commander of the newly IV Corps which will be headquartered in Santa Rosa, La Pampa Province.

General Villarreal, commander of the V Corps (Bahia Blanca) has been replaced by the current head of border police, Maj Gen Osvaldo Garcia, who -- in turn -- will be replaced by Brig Gen Raul J. Ortiz, current presidential public informations secretary.

Gen Edgardo Calvi will be the new commander of military institutes, while Maj Gen Alfredo O. Saint Jean will remain as secretary general of the high command, and Maj Gen Luis Santiago Martella will also remain as general secretary of the president.

The list of brigade commanders will be as follows, including some who have been confirmed: Brig Gen Jorge Hugo Arguindegui, 1st Brigade; Brig Gen Carlos Vinotti, 2d Brigade; Brig Gen Omar Parada, 3d Brigade; Brig Gen Julio Alfredo Fernandez, 4th Brigade; Brig Gen Carlos Scholer, 5th Brigade; Brig Gen Fernando Verplaetsen, 6th Brigade; Brig Gen Ricardo Norberto Flouret, 7th Brigade; Brig Gen Carlos Horacio Garay, 8th Brigade; Brig Gen Americo Daher, 9th Brigade; Brig Gen Oscar Luis Jofre, 10th Brigade; Brig Gen Oscar Enrique Guerrero, 11th Brigade; and Brig Gen Victor M. Gutierrez, 12th Brigade.

GOVERNMENT REPLIES TO POPE'S BEAGLE PROPOSALS

PY040300 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0105 GMT 4 Dec 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Dec (NA) -- It was officially reported tonight that the Military Committee today approved the note answering the pope's proposal issued on 16 October, and that it gave "additional" instructions to the Argentine delegation which is participating in the negotiations being held in the Vatican with Chile on the southern border dispute.

The official communique does not (say) whether the Argentine answer to the pope will be taken to Rome by Argentine negotiators to the mediation Guillermo Moncayo and Ricardo Etcheverry Boneo, who will travel to Rome at the beginning of the coming week.

According to diplomatic observers, the note issued by the highest Argentine institutional organization is basically in agreement with the position that the Argentine Government has held from the beginning of the mediation. This position basically involves the respect for the two-ocean principle which admits Argentine jurisdiction over the Atlantic and Chilean jurisdiction over the Pacific.

The preparation of the document, which was approved by the Military Committee today, required several meetings by the so-called Beagle Group, which included, at its latest stage, Moncayo and Etcheverry Boneo, who were especially summoned for that purpose.

The pope's note, now being answered by Argentina was delivered on 16 October by Papal Nuncio Ubaldo Calabressi to the Argentine Foreign Ministry, after the trip Foreign Minister Camilion made to the Vatican in September. The step that the Argentine Government has just taken stands as the most outstanding event in the course of the mediation after the pope submitted his proposal in December last year. This proposal was accepted shortly afterward by the Chilean authorities.

The following is the official communique which was released after the end of the meeting held by the military committee:

"The Military Committee held a meeting today starting at 1730 at the Libertador Building. The meeting was attended by Army Commander in Chief Maj Gen Leopoldo Fortunato Galtieri, by Navy Commander in Chief Adm Jorge Isaac Anaya, by Air Force Commander in Chief Maj Gen Omar Domingo Rubens Graffigna, by Interior Minister in charge of the executive branch Gen Horacio Tomas Liendo, by Joint Chief of Staff Div Gen Llamil Reston and by Brig Gen Basilio Lami Dozo.

"The following items were considered during the meeting:

- Updating of the southern dispute situation;
- Issuing of additional instructions to the Argentine delegation to the Vatican;
- The answer to the pope's note dated 16 October 1981."

GOVERNMENT ADOPTS PACKAGE OF ECONOMIC MEASURES

PY031354 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1045 GMT 29 Nov 81

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 29 Nov (TELAM) -- A package of measures aimed at effectively reactivating the productive apparatus was adopted last night by the government after a series of almost day-long meetings, among interior minister, acting president Maj Gen Tomas Liendo and high-ranking officials, including Social Action Minister Vice Adm Carlos Alberto Lacoste (now in charge of the Interior Ministry) and Economy and Finance Minister Lorenzo Sigaut.

A communique providing this information was released at the end of the meeting by the Public Information Secretariat of the Presidency of the nation.

The communique said: The national government has adopted a package of measures which has been in the works for several weeks in compliance with instructions given earlier by his excellency President Lt Gen Roberto Eduardo Viola.

The measures are intended to contribute to the economic reactivation of the productive apparatus through the creation of better conditions to check interest rate fluctuation, thus favoring a decline in interest rates and encouraging longer term bank deposits. The measures also seek to increase the financial system's solvency and effectiveness within a context of competition.

In order to achieve these results it has been decided to create mechanisms to reduce the margin of uncertainty and risk with which the exchange and financial markets have been operating and to establish greater solvency requirements for enterprises which are under the deposits guarantee system, thus strengthening the entire financial system.

The first measure consists of reducing restrictions on the development of a forward-exchange market for financial operations to allow private individuals to freely operate through authorized financial institutions.

As of 1 December and for as long as it may be necessary to allow the system to function without Central Bank intervention, this monetary authority will sell 180-day forward-exchange contracts initially charging a 5-percent forward-rate per month over the cash sale price in the financial exchange market. These sales will be limited by the purchases the Central Bank can make from the cash financial market at the price established by the Central Bank daily.

There will be no changes in the way the commercial exchange market currently operates nor in establishing its real parity. The maintenance of current policy modified by the new measures will gradually lead to the unification of the financial and the commercial exchange markets.

The second measure calls for all financial enterprises under the deposits guarantee system to maintain a reserve fund to cover defaulted accounts. This reserve will be obtained through the margin of interest rate agreed on with their clients above the official reference interest rate. This reference rate will be published every month by the Central Bank and it will be calculated by adding the forward-exchange rate, the international interest rate operation fees and the profit-margin of the financial enterprises. In other words, the interest the financial enterprises will charge above the cost of the foreign indebtedness plus the aforementioned operation fees and profit-margin. Since the state guarantees bank deposits, kept the reserves to cover defaulted accounts will not accounted as profits and should be deposited in the Central Bank.

The official reference rate for the month of December is established at 8 percent with slight variations for transactions with higher operations fees.

The interest rates for loans as well as for deposits will continue to be freely negotiated by the financial enterprises.

The third measure reduces compensations for minimum under 30-day deposits to be collected from the monetary-regulation account by financial enterprises. Compensations on deposits for 60 or more days and on personal savings deposits will be larger.

In compliance with the instructions given by President Viola right from the beginning of his mandate the reactivation of the productive apparatus should necessarily be based on the expansion of private activities. This is the only means by which public activities will manage to secure genuine sources of finance. In this regard, during the meeting held on Thursday, the 26th, the provincial governors were instructed to center their efforts in administering with austerity the funds available for each jurisdiction without encouraging false expectations regarding increases in public expenditures. The improvement of the productive sector will allow the recovery of employment levels and an increase in peoples' income.

These same instructions have been given to officials of the national government. Holding down expenditures and increasing fiscal resources genuinely originated from the reactivation of the productive apparatus is the right way to decrease the fiscal deficit as an essential requirement for curbing inflation, the aforementioned guidelines say.

In addition to the communique regarding the adoption of economic measures aimed at reactivating the productive apparatus, the Public Information Secretariat released three circulars to the media.

The texts [as received] of the circulars follow:

By one of the circulars, forward-exchange operations are permitted, even to private individuals, in the financial exchange market at a rate of exchange to be agreed on between buyers and the vendors and for periods also to be agreed on by the two parties but which will not exceed 180 days, but allowing for extensions or advance liquidations.

The purchase of foreign currency at forward-exchange rates which enterprises make for their clients may be transacted with foreign currency obtained abroad, or in the local financial market, through cash-exchange rate or forward-exchange rate operations, for the sole purpose of receiving compensation.

The sales to clients by enterprises may be in identical conditions or quantities in which they are authorized to operate in the cash-exchange rate market.

Public sector departments, organizations or enterprises are not authorized to conclude forward-exchange rate operations.

Another circular authorizes swap operations in the financial-exchange market for financial loans in foreign currency by the private sector on 180-day terms which are renewable prior to agreement with the Central Bank.

This is a transitory measure to take care of the financial needs of agriculture, mining and manufacturing enterprises.

In order to close these operations, the financial enterprises must purchase in cash, the foreign currency which the borrowers may bring into the country, hand the foreign currency over to the Central Bank at the same exchange rate and close the respective 180-day forward-exchange rate contract with the Central Bank.

A fixed surcharge which the Central Bank will announce every day will be added to the cash-exchange rate at which the operations are transacted.

The third circular provides for the expansion of the exchange risk insurance system which has been established by communique A-61, allowing its application to the interest rates on foreign currency loans standing up to 30 June 1981, even in those cases in which, due to the limitation established in the aforementioned communique (50 percent), the capital cannot benefit from the exchange insurance.

The expanded exchange insurance covers interest on loans with maturity dates up to 31 December 1983, so long as the payment of interest is extended for a minimum of 540 days and a maximum of 3 years counted from the maturity date of the respective capital obligations.

Another circular establishes that every month the Central Bank will inform the financial enterprises what the reference rate for credit operations in Argentine pesos is. This reference rate as of 1 December 1981 will be fixed at 8 percent for loans in general and slightly higher for those loans with higher operational costs. The financial enterprises should provide a special protection fund in the amount by which the interest and adjustments accrued under Circular B 1050 surpasses that which will result from the application of these reference rates.

The financial enterprises associated with the deposits guarantee system that should provide the special protection fund will maintain a deposit in the same amount in the Central Bank which will not be taken into account as part of its minimum reserve deposit. The same deposit will be maintained by those enterprises which are not associated with that system but which have to submit or are carrying out regularization or adjustment programs for minimum established capitals.

The Central Bank circular regarding the compensation rate of the monetary regulation account establishes in Point No 1 (that those reserves of a) minimum corresponding to the deposits in regular savings accounts will be compensated within the monetary regulation account. Point No 2 of this circular establishes that the compensation coefficient for regular savings accounts will be 0.4 and 0.95 for special savings accounts. The compensation coefficient for time deposits will be subject to the following coefficients: 0.4 for 7- to 14-day deposits; 0.45 for 15- to 22-day deposits; 0.50 for 23- to 29-day deposits; 1.1 for deposits of 60 or more days; and 1 for other time deposits.

CNEA HEAD DENIES A-BOMB MANUFACTURE PLANS

PY031708 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] Vice Adm Carlos Castro Madero has denied that Argentina is going to produce the atomic bomb. The president of the National Atomic Energy Commission [CNEA] made this denial with reference to the report published by a British magazine which said in an article that toward the end of 1982 our country will win the race with Brazil for the production of the first Latin American nuclear bomb.

Castro Madero said: It is true, however, that Argentina has a very much advanced project in progress for building a processing plant which will be able to produce plutonium and through which nuclear development for warlike purpose might be undertaken.

He added that this country has never had the intention of keeping this laboratory a secret; on the contrary, the world knows about this project and the intentions and objectives which are sought through the program.

Castro Madero then maintained that the purpose is that of not wasting the possibilities of the nation of exporting nuclear technology and of not crippling ourselves in a very important part of the primitive cycle.

Castro Madero said, referring to the British magazine, that the report is double-edged; on the one hand it is true, he said, in the sense that Argentina will be able to have plutonium obtained from its irradiated fuels, but it is not true that the project is secret and that we are moving toward manufacturing an atomic bomb.

NEGOTIATIONS ON MALVINAS TO BE RESUMED

PY031724 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] The Foreign Ministry issued a communique this morning which states that Argentina and Great Britain will resume negotiations on the Malvinas, Georgia and Sandwich Islands in Geneva, Switzerland, on 18 December. Our country's delegation will be presided over by Foreign Relations Under Secretary Enrique Ross, who will be accompanied by the Argentine ambassador in London, Carlos Ortiz de Rozas, and by Ambassador Carlos Blanco, director of Antarctic and Malvinas affairs. The official communique states: "As is known, these negotiations will be carried out in fulfillment of UN General Assembly resolutions and they will deal with the sovereignty dispute between the two countries over the mentioned islands in the South Atlantic Ocean."

INTERIOR MINISTER MERCADO DISCUSSES HUANUNI MINERS

PY032105 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Excerpt] Interior Minister Romulo Mercado has stated that there is tranquillity in the mine districts, with the exception of the Huanuni district where pseudoleaders try to stir up the workers who are carrying out their activities. Colonel Mercado talked to the press at the ceremony marking the graduation of detectives of the national investigations department held this morning. He said that the general situation in Huanuni during the past few hours was provoked by persons interested in disturbing order and making up rumors such as the detention of miners for political reasons. He also denied that some Bolivians exiled to Sweden are from that mining district or from the university. They have nothing to do with the mines or with the miners. They are subversive political elements who had been exiled to Sweden, and they are not what the Santa Cruz press reported -- that they are university students. Moreover, I deny that report categorically, the minister stated.

Cabinet on Huanuni

PY031250 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] Minister Secretary of Press and Information Jaime Humerez Seleme has said that, in relation to the new developments that have taken place in the Huanuni district, the government has reiterated its intention and willingness to engage in a dialogue in order to solve the problems. It also made it clear that it will stand firm if there are any positions not strictly in keeping with labor matters. This matter was discussed at the ordinary cabinet meeting based on the report submitted by Interior Minister Romulo Mercado Garnica, who is currently the active foreign minister. In his capacity as foreign minister, Colonel Mercado Garnica made reference to the designation and arrival in La Paz of the new U.S. Ambassador Edwin Corr. Humerez Seleme said that the Cabinet:

[Begin Humerez recording] ...Meeting started with the report submitted by the acting foreign minister who referred to the arrival of U.S. Ambassador Edwin Corr and to the protocol steps that are being taken for the presentation of his credentials. [end recording]

Foreign Ministry sources have reported that the U.S. diplomat will meet tomorrow with Acting Foreign Minister Romulo Mercado, in order to present copies of his credentials. The remarks made by the ambassador upon his arrival on Saturday were also discussed and they were welcomed at the cabinet meeting.

[Begin Humerez recording] As you know, upon his arrival in Bolivia, the U.S. ambassador voiced his intention to strengthen the relations between Bolivia and the United States. This first statement by the U.S. ambassador was warmly welcomed not only by the government but also by the people. [end recording]

The interior minister also submitted a report on the situation in the country, which was referred to as calm, with the exception of Huanuni, where the presence of some politicians has been detected.

[Begin Humerez recording] The interior minister referred to the internal situation of the country and he pointed out that the situation throughout the territory is normal, with the exception of the Huanuni mining area where some politicians who are entrenched among the workers -- and I am quoting the minister's words -- are posing agitation problems with the purpose of disturbing the normal development of mining activities. [end recording]

Humerez Seleme said that the interior minister's report specified the names of the politicians involved in those activities in Huanuni.

[Begin Humerez recording] The interior minister has specifically mentioned Mr (Barrios) and (Salas) who, claiming to have undue labor representativity, are taking retaliatory measures against more than 50 mineworkers who had worked normally and who did not follow the instructions issued during the last conflict.

According to the interior minister's report the extreme measure of dismissing these workers from their jobs has been taken, and they might even be expelled from the Juanuni district. [end recording]

Taking these facts into consideration, Humerez said that this situation violates the agreement signed in La Paz for solving the mineworkers' strike that lasted several days.

[Begin Humerez recording] The government considers that this attitude by some leaders who are trying to disrupt the tranquillity of minework is a real violation of the agreement arrived at some days ago after the church mediation. That agreement includes a point where the mineworkers' commitment to guarantee the normal development of activities in those districts has been stated and through those acts I just mentioned they are really breaking that commitment. [end recording]

After making this statement, Minister Humerez Seleme reiterated the government's position before this situation.

[Begin Humerez recording] The armed forces government wants to reiterate at this moment that it sticks to its intention and willingness to engage in a dialogue to solve the problems, but at the same time it wants to make clear that it will stand firm if there are any positions not strictly in keeping with labor matters, and aimed at playing a political game. The interior minister and the president have voiced their confidence that commonsense will prevail in this situation in the mining districts and that it will be possible to devise a solution favoring the interests of both sides through cordial negotiations. [end recording]

The official cabinet meeting spokesman also said that the radio network and the curfew were not considered at the Cabinet meeting, previously reported by some media.

CARDINAL CLEMENTE MAURER ON CHURCH-STATE RELATIONS

PY032247 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1510 GMT 26 Nov 81

[Excerpt] La Paz, 26 Nov (LATIN-REUTER) -- According to Cardinal Clemente Maurer, the Catholic Church will cooperate with Gen Celso Torrelío's administration, provided that the law and human rights are respected.

The Bolivian Episcopal Conference started a national meeting today in Santa Cruz -- 540 km southeast of La Paz -- at which various aspects of Bolivia's general situation will be studied.

In declarations made to the Santa Cruz press, Monsignor Maurer -- highest representative of the Bolivian clergy -- said that relations between Church and government are normal.

He added that they are not wholly cordial, because the Church is against smuggling, drug trafficking and bribery, which are problems that the government must solve.

MILITARY CLOSES BORDER PASS FOR MANEUVERS

PY031206 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0120 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] Rio Grande, Tierra del Fuego, 2 Dec (NA) -- According to reports by security sources, Chilean authorities today closed for over 10 hours the border pass of San Sebastian, on Tierra del Fuego, because of military maneuvers.

These sources said that this closing took place today between 0800 and 1845, and it affected an obligatory passing zone for land traffic to the towns of Rio Grande and Ushuaia.

The San Sebastian pass, which from Chilean territory runs into the Argentine insular region of the bay of same name, was closed by the Santiago government to allow the deployment of Chilean troops toward the southern border.

According to the mentioned sources, the military maneuvers will start tomorrow with the participation of two engineering battalions, an artillery corps, equipped with rockets, and assault troops.

The decision by the trans-Andean authorities at first caused unrest among the populations of Rio Grande and Ushuaia, but this unrest was dissipated shortly before 1900 when the pass was reopened to traffic.

FACH EXPEDITION TO ANTARTIC BASES BEGINS

PY040104 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1728 GMT 29 Nov 81

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 29 Nov (LATIN-REUTER) -- The Chilean Air Force (FACH) announced today the beginning of an expedition to the Antarctic Circle to set up two bases, increase the country's sovereignty in that territory and expand scientific studies.

FACH revealed that the expeditionary force left on Friday from the Lieutenant Marsh Antarctic base on King George Island. This force is supported by twin Otter planes, a Hercules C-130 transport plane and one helicopter.

The expeditionary force's departure was observed by military attaches of 14 nations, who had been especially invited by the institution to the Chilean Antarctic territory, 3,800 km south of Santiago.

The expeditionary group is made up of FACH commandos and parachutists, who will have to travel about 1,700 km through the frozen continent in order to arrive at the scheduled point.

Air Force Col Roberto Vergara -- who directs the plan -- told the press that the expeditioners will also take advantage of the 1981-1982 summer season to reopen the Gabriel Gonzalez Videla and Pedro Aguirre Cerda bases. Volcanic eruptions destroyed the latter in 1960.

The officer pointed out that the purposes of the expedition are to achieve an expansion of the scientific studies at the Antarctic Circle, to obtain meteorological information which will be provided to the Antarctic treaty's signatories, and to strengthen Chilean sovereignty in those latitudes.

AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH PANAMA ON BORDER CONTROL

PA030433 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0004 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] Bogota, 2 Dec (EFE) -- The Panamanian and Colombian Governments have intensified border control at their joint boundaries in order to prevent the uncontrolled transit of persons or smuggled goods.

The respective agreement was signed in this capital city today by Government Ministers Jorge Ritter from Panama and Jorge Mario Eastman from Colombia, who presided over a binational meeting to analyze the border situation.

They have also agreed to establish cooperation mechanisms to prevent activities that may harm the morale, health, physical or psychic integrity of their respective peoples or which may endanger the stability of their institutions.

According to Minister Eastman, the commission has analyzed the legislative, administrative, police, commercial, migratory, customs, port, airport and military procedures in order to improve them and correct any failures or "vulnerabilities" that may exist.

The Colombo-Panamanian dialogue was held following reports of the sale and shipment of weapons for guerrilla groups operating in the southern part of Colombia.

In regards to this matter, Colombia has said that it has concrete evidence that the neighboring government has not participated in the arms traffic and that on the contrary has cooperated with the local authorities in its repression.

STUDENT RIOTS CLOSE SANTANDER UNIVERSITY

PA040406 Paris AFP in Spanish 2027 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] Bogota, 2 Dec (AFP) -- It was officially reported here today that the state-run Santander Industrial University [Universidad Industrial de Santander -- UIS], one of the largest in eastern Colombia, was closed today until late January.

Authorized spokesmen of the Colombian Education Ministry disclosed that UIS was closed because of constant disturbances carried out by the students to disrupt classes.

The students protests became worse when military units of the 5th Brigade, with headquarters in Bucaramanga, capital of Santander Department in eastern Colombia, arrested two medical school students charging them with aiding the pro-Castroite National Liberation Army.

From Bucaramanga, the UIS rector reported that the classes will not resume until January because public order has been markedly disrupted at the university.

The students have been involved in rallies, protests, stonefights and street disturbances; and it is impossible to continue dictating classes under these circumstances, the spokesman of the National Education Ministry noted.

UIS is the only state university currently facing student problems. The other universities are operating normally.

STAND ON BORDER PROBLEM WITH PERU REITERATED

PA031552 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0041 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] Quito, 2 Dec (EFE) -- The Ecuadorean Foreign Ministry today reiterated its reservation "regarding anything that Peru does in the zone extending east of the Condor Mountain Range, a zone that has not even been delimited by the Rio de Janeiro Protocol."

This reservation, an official communique stated, includes the military detachments, human settlements, any work of infrastructure and anything that is carried out against the spirit of coexistence that forces the two countries to negotiate the pending problems.

The communique noted that this reservation was presented by Ecuador during the UN General Assembly that is currently being held in New York.

In this way, the Foreign Ministry referred to reports from Peru about the sending of groups of settlers to the inhospitable Condor Mountains zone, site of armed confrontations between the armies of the two countries early this year.

Regarding this conflict, the Foreign Ministry noted that the agreements resulting from the resolution of the 19th OAS consultation meeting are in effect. Those agreements seek to overcome the most recent border incidents and maintain peace on the continent.

It added that in accordance with its traditional pacifist policy, Ecuador will always act with the dignity and firmness that its rights demand.

The ministry also reiterated the Ecuadorean Government's decision to find a just and peaceful solution of the territorial problem with Peru.

The foreign minister of the two countries began a dialogue at the SELA meeting held in Panama.

According to Peru, the Rio de Janeiro Protocol signed in 1942 after a brief war which Ecuador lost, resolved the border problems that date back to the beginning of the republics.

Ecuador claims its "unrenounceable rights over the Amazon region" and rejects the Rio de Janeiro Protocol.

ARMED FORCES IN CHARGE OF ALL TELECOMMUNICATIONS

PA281950 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0855 GMT 28 Nov 81

[By Jorge Aguirre]

[Text] Quito, 28 Nov (LATIN-REUTER) -- Technical personnel of the armed forces today were in charge of all public telecommunications in Ecuador as instructed by the constitutional government after the civilian personnel went on strike yesterday.

The leaders of the National Federation of Telecommunications Workers (FENETEL) who ordered the strike of the 7,000 workers of this sector said today clandestinely that they will not yield "their position until their demands are met."

These demands are for better wages for the workers and the reorganization of the management of the Ecuadorean Telecommunications Institute (IETEL).

Through the Public Works and Communications Ministry, the government held talks with the leaders of the strike without achieving positive results.

An official statement stresses that "the broad opening of the government only obtained an intransigent response contrary to the laws of the country and to the interests of society."

The telecommunications workers occupied their work installations yesterday afternoon in the principal cities of the country, closed the doors and refused to serve the public.

The automatic telephone, radiotelegraph and Telex services, both domestic and international, continued to operate. However, the personnel in these installations refused to answer the calls requesting service.

At 2100 GMT last night combined army and police forces occupied the IETEL installations in Quito and Guayaquil, 416 km southeast of Quito; and Cuenca, an Andean city 472 km south of the capital.

Two hours later, the Government (Interior) Ministry explained in a communique that "since it involves one of the basic services, it has decided to have the armed forces personnel assume the telecommunications services in the country."

The government accused the IETEL workers of "adopting measures contrary to the laws of the country," and reiterated the laws which ban public workers from striking.

The official note indicates that the existing regulations impose penalties on workers who suspend public services by "dismissing those responsible for participating in such acts, without compensation of any kind."

Meanwhile, some 30,000 Ecuadorean teachers of the National Union of Teachers (UNE), considered public workers, have been on strike for 17 days today.

They are demanding wage increases and a reform of the education law. The UNE groups 37 percent of the Ecuadorean teachers.

SOVIET DELEGATION ARRIVES FOR OFFICIAL VISIT

PA021618 Paris AFP in Spanish 2116 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Text] Quito, 1 Dec (AFP) — A delegation of eight members of the Soviet parliament arrived in this city for an official 4-day visit. During their visit, they will hold talks with the most important Ecuadorean officials.

The Soviet mission is headed by A.S. Barkauskas, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet and president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of Lithuania, who said that the purpose of the visit is to further strengthen the ties of friendship between the two nations.

The delegation will remain in Ecuador until Thursday when it will depart for Mexico. It was received in Quito by Reinaldo Yanchaphkpu, vice president of the Ecuadorean Congress.

The Soviets will be received by the president and vice president of the republic and of Congress, the recently appointed health minister and the foreign Affairs Committee of the National Chamber of Representatives.

COMMUNIST PARTY ELECTS NEW SECRETARY GENERAL

PA010220 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 30 Nov 81

[Text] Former presidential candidate Rene Mauge was elected as the new secretary general of the Communist Party of Ecuador [PCE], thereby bringing an end to a long dictatorial period of Pedro Saad, a PCE news report said. Mauge was elected during the 10th PCE congress held this weekend in Guayaquil after an 8-year period, in spite of the fact that it should have been held every 2 years.

LOPEZ PORTILLO CALLS FOR 'CONSTANT AWARENESS'

FL241337 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1303 GMT 24 Nov 81

[Text] Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo has stated that Latin America is currently experiencing a very severe test regarding the risks that are being run by the principles of international coexistence. He made this remark when he received the members of the political and economic committees of the Latin American Parliament, which is currently meeting in Mexico.

Lopez Portillo added that there must be a constant awareness of what is occurring at the present time, without taking into account the ideological positions that each country maintains.

OLIVARES PRAISES PRESIDENT'S REGIONAL POLICIES

PA030417 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] Mexican Secretary of Government Enrique Olivares Santana said that the main points of President Jose Lopez Portillo's foreign policy have been the friendship with Cuba and Nicaragua and the firm defense of the principles of self-determination of the Central American peoples.

In evaluating Lopez Portillo's last 5 years in government, Olivares said that the firm stance adopted by the Mexican president in relation to Central America and the Caribbean involves and implies a risk and a danger that makes it even more worthy.

Olivares also said that during U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig's recent visit to Mexico and during his talks with top Mexican authorities, he had been able to verify Lopez Portillo's firm and intransigent stance.

HUNGARIAN OFFICIAL ARRIVES FOR TRADE TALKS

FL231625 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0140 GMT 22 Nov 81

[Text] Mexico City, 21 Nov (NOTIMEX) -- The Hungarian vice minister for foreign trade, Atto Herkne [presumably Otto Herkner -- listed as trade department director of the Ministry of Metallurgy and Machine Industry], arrived this afternoon in Mexico City to carry out negotiations on technological and trade cooperation with Mexican authorities.

He will also participate in the inauguration ceremony of the Hungarian technological week that is to begin on Monday at the Mexican Foreign Trade Institute (IMCE) as a means for strengthening economic relations between the two countries.

The Hungarian official indicated that Mexican industry has great significance for his country because it can give valuable technical advice in exchange for cooperation in the agricultural and livestock fields.

Regarding the Mexican-Hungarian trade balance, he indicated that trade between the two countries is balanced. He pointed out that trade began 5 years ago and that currently efforts are being made by the two countries to increase two-way imports and exports.

BULGARIAN EDUCATION OFFICIAL ARRIVES FOR VISIT

FL251710 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1517 GMT 25 Nov 81

[Text] Mexico City, 25 Nov (NOTIMEX) -- Education must be coherent with reality and the needs of nations so that it can effectively serve in their development. This remark was made this morning by the Bulgarian vice minister for education, Yordan Yordanov [listed as deputy rector of the medical academy], on his arrival in Mexico for an official visit, during which he will meet with the secretary of public education, Fernando Solana Morales.

The Bulgarian official indicated that in his country education is progressive and it has continuity; it thus responds to the needs of that nation. He also remarked that education must not become stagnated because the progress of nations demand the renewal of academic bases so that they are in accordance with their economic, industrial and social development.

The official's visit has the objective of increasing the ongoing cooperation between Mexico and Bulgaria in the educational sector and the drafting of an agreement for the mutual validation of study certificates between the two countries.

Yordanov will visit the National Autonomous University of Mexico and several departments of the Public Education Secretariat "in order to obtain knowledge of Mexico's cultural wealth."

The Bulgarian ambassador to Mexico, Bogomil Gerasimov, was at this city's airport to meet the Bulgarian education minister [as received].

Official Departs

FL011818 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1340 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Text] Mexico City, 1 Dec (NOTIMEX) -- The study plans of a modern education demand scientific research and the participation of the students for the development of their countries. This was said by the Bulgarian vice minister for education, Yordan Yordanov, just before departing for his country after a 5-day visit to Mexico, in which, he said, he was able to learn about Mexican-Bulgarian relations in the educational sector.

The official indicated that in current times students must not be spectators when before their teachers; they must take an active part in a dynamic education in order to understand the reality that surrounds them.

Moreover, he remarked that the Bulgarian and Mexican Governments (?had approved the) the mutual validation of study certificates between the two countries and that this will achieve an important exchange of teachers and students within the cultural and educational sectors. He also remarked that he had observed that there is a similarity in Bulgarian and Mexican educational curriculum and he believes that they are appropriately adapted to the needs of their peoples.

Finally, he indicated that the future of education will be based on an active participation of students so that they can understand the knowledge that they have obtained and so that they can disseminate it in an objective manner.

PRESIDENCY MINISTER INTERVIEWED ON CANAL COMMISSION

PA301401 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 1130 GMT 30 Nov 81

[Interview with Ricardo Rodriguez, Panamanian minister of the presidency, before leaving for Washington 29 Nov; no place given -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] What are the topics to be discussed during your visit to Washington?

[Answer] We are going to Washington to attend the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Panama Canal Commission. The meeting's agenda is long. We will discuss the salary scale; personnel policy; the general labor laws, that is labor-management; the administrator's quarterly report; and other topics such as the personnel commission's report, the report of the commission on improvements and maintenance of the canal; and finally some administrative matters on canal commission assets which [words indistinct] so as to eliminate this equipment.

[Question] Can you tell us if you have any specific position regarding this meeting of the Canal Commission?

[Answer] Our positions have been studied continuously by the Foreign Ministry, the presidency and the Panamanian members of the Canal Commission. We are constantly meeting to study our positions regarding canal problems. We can say that we do have a position regarding each of the topics of the board of directors meeting.

[Question] Regarding labor problems, are you going to discuss the problem of Local 900 with the Federal Labor Relations Board?

[Answer] We are (?not) going to discuss that topic specifically [words indistinct] in the first place the double salary scale, or the payroll system in the canal area. We will also discuss the laws that should govern labor-management relations in the Canal Commission.

[Question] Are you going to ask that the U.S. labor union withdraw from the canal area?

[Answer] That is not one of the topics to be discussed by the board of directors. According to the Torrijos-Carter treaties, the Canal Commission should establish its own rules to govern labor-management relations. As these laws have not been established, U.S. laws are being applied, and that is the reason for the presence of some U.S. federal authorities. On this occasion, we are trying to establish which are the Canal Commission's laws to govern labor-management relations. Of course, when we discuss this issue, it will be decided what participation the U.S. labor authorities might have. Specifically, the case (?of Local 900) has not yet been brought directly to the board of directors.

[Question] It was recently published that Panama has not received the \$10 million due it from the surplus. What is your position, or the government's position regarding this \$10 million which has not been turned over to Panama?

[Answer] Everything that we do, the Foreign Ministry as well as the Ministry of the Presidency, regarding canal area problems are the government's positions because they are orders from our president. He is the director of the country's foreign policy as stated in the Constitution, so all our positions obeying the president's orders are government's positions. Our positions are the president's positions as stated publicly in correspondence to the U.S. Government as well as in international forums. All we are doing is applying his concepts and methods.

BELIZEGOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES MILITARY AGREEMENT WITH UK

FLO32209 Bridgetown CANA in English 2158 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] Belmopan, Belize, 3 Dec (CANA) -- Britain and Belize have formally agreed to the retention of a garrison of United Kingdom troops here as a security guarantee against threats from neighboring Guatemala.

Acting Prime Minister and Minister of Home Affairs and Defense C.L.B. Rogers and British High Commissioner Mr Frank Trew exchanged notes yesterday.

The agreement is deemed to have entered into force on 21 September, Belize's independence day, and shall continue in force until terminated by agreements between the two governments.

Guatemala has a long-standing claim to Belize and had often threatened to invade the Central [American] state if Britain approved its independence before the row was settled. The Guatemalans broke off consular relations with Britain weeks before Belize shed its colonial status.

The acting prime minister also signed a separate memorandum of understanding between the Governments of Belize and the United Kingdom, under which the United Kingdom will endeavor to make available personnel of its armed forces for assistance in the staffing, training and development of the Belize defense force. Mr Rogers said that this was a technical assistance pact. Britain, he said, would provide military training to Belize as part of a postindependence cooperation between the two countries.

COSTA RICACLASHES IN NICARAGUA NEAR BORDER INVESTIGATED

PA040431 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2326 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] San Jose, 3 Dec (ACAN-EFE) -- The Costa Rican authorities on the border with Nicaragua are on the alert in view of reports about armed clashes between Sandinists and counterrevolutionaries along the border.

Carlos Hernandez, a correspondent of the San Jose newspaper LA NACION, reported a clash that supposedly took place between armed groups in a place called Isla Chica, in Nicaraguan territory.

The Revolutionary Armed Forces (FAR) of Nicaragua said in a clandestine communique that the attack against the Sandinists was carried out by the Elias Rugama guerrilla command, headed by Commander Oscar, the leader of the insurgents in the southern part of Nicaragua.

The counterrevolutionaries claim that they are former Sandinists and anticommunists and that in the Isla Chica clash four Nicaraguan soldiers were killed and six injured and the military garrison of that region was set on fire.

The Costa Rican guards at the border are investigating the reports, but nothing has yet been confirmed, according to Public Security Ministry spokesmen.

PRESIDENT DENIES COUNTRY BACKING GUERRILLAS

PA040311 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2245 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo Odio denied that his country intends to join an axis with El Salvador and Venezuela based on the similarity of the parties to which he is a member and the Christian Democracy existing in these two countries.

President Carazo stated this in a news item published in Bogota, Colombia. He also denied that Costa Rica had become an arms traffic staging center for guerrilla groups in Central and South America and the Caribbean.

Denying a base for international terrorism was being established in his country, Carazo said his country abides by rules of peace and order and he is proud of his actions against Anastasio Somoza.

EL SALVADORCOL ADOLFO MAJANO INTERVIEWED IN EXILE

PA040346 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1918 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] Mexico City, 3 Dec (EFE) -- Col Adolfo Arnolando Majano has said here that he is not "a third option," and is not trying to take over the Salvadoran people's struggle or become a member of "the revolutionary organizations."

In an interview with the newspaper UNO MAS UNO, Majano, who was granted territorial asylum by Mexico on Monday, said that his "opposition stand is aimed at denouncing the (Jose Napoleon) Duarte administration and the clique of ranking officers who prevented and sabotaged the implementation of the reforms set forth by the army in the proclamation of October 1979."

The former member of the Salvadoran Government junta said that there had been reports he was underground in El Salvador, that he had joined the guerrillas, and that he was getting ready to form a third "alternate force." "None of these reports are true," he said.

Majano said he wanted to make one thing very clear: "Before continuing I must clarify that as a soldier my political activities have not been motivated by personal ambition."

He continued: "From my current position I would like to help reestablish peace in El Salvador and to cooperate as much as I can to help the people find a solution to the vast needs they have today. This is the first premise of my stand. I do not want to reap political fruits from a struggle that has cost so many lives."

According to UNO MAS UNO, the former Salvadoran ruler explained: "I am carefully considering where my responsibility lies, but I already know what actions I should not take." Therefore, he continued, "I neither intend to take over the struggle the people are waging, nor to become an alternate political force."

Majano stressed: "I am not offering myself, in anyone's interest, as an independent option. If I were to do this I would be denying the capacity of the Salvadoran people, as a whole, to solve the crisis."

"I consider myself," he added, "one of the many political and military leaders who, from the ranks of the opposition and along with millions of Salvadorans, express their dissent with the current state of affairs."

Colonel Majano said: "I do not want to become a member of the revolutionary organizations that make up the Revolutionary Democratic Front and the FMLN."

He explained that ever since he was a member of the government he had expressed a desire to hold a "dialogue with all the political forces" of El Salvador, but underlined that "I have never tried to join the revolutionary organizations."

On another aspect of the problem, Majano said that "the U.S. Government has not done anything to solve El Salvador's problems, but it has done a lot to worsen them." He pointed out that "the weapons sent by the United States in the hands of those who are currently using them will not serve to recover the peace. They will serve to prolong the war."

According to UNO MAS UNO, Majano said: "Our armed institution is in serious danger," and warned that "it is being manipulated, which has caused a severe drop in the morale of both troops and officers. However, I believe it is still salvageable."

Briefly commenting on the reasons behind the coup d'etat he led in 1979, Majano emphasized: "Our movement was not improvised, and it was not ordered by ranking officers. It was a genuine idea from the lower ranks."

"The ranking officers who were later included deceived us. They boycotted our reforms and then, through intimidation and by discrediting the progressive sectors, took over power in an alliance with the rightist sectors of the government and the oligarchy," Majano concluded, according to the UNO MAS UNO report.

FMLN REPORTS ON ARMY CASUALTIES IN NOVEMBER

PA031713 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] The FMLN has reported that in November it inflicted more than 340 casualties on the Salvadoran Army. During November the forces of the military-Christian Democratic junta suffered a big defeat in Cabanas Department.

An FMLN communique also indicates that in the past 72 hours the regime's troops sustained 17 casualties in the region of Guazapa. Guerrilla squads also destroyed an electric power-plant in Usulután.

The National Association of Salvadoran Teachers has charged that four teachers were kidnapped and killed by the repressive forces of the genocidal government junta.

GUATEMALA

ARMY READIES TO CRUSH MAJOR GUERRILLA OFFENSIVE

PA032349 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1731 GMT 2 Dec 81

[By Felix Pachó Reyero, special correspondent]

[Excerpts] Guatemala, 2 Dec (ACAN-EFE) -- The Guatemalan Army asserted that this week it will crush and defeat the final offensive launched by the guerrillas to take over two or three western departments, declare them free territories and set up a provisional government there.

The magnitude of the operation brought the armed forces' and the guerrillas' high commands to the battlefield. Brig Gen Manuel Benedicto Lucas García, army chief of staff and brother of the Guatemalan president, personally followed events in the combat zone.

According to government reports, Irish priest and guerrilla Commander Donald McKenna; Dr Julia Solorzano Foppa, also called "Commander Ines"; and Commander Gaspar Ilon, top leader of the Armed Peoples Revolutionary Organization [ORPA] who personally leads insurgent forces only on major occasions, were initially at the operations grounds.

It has been impossible to obtain the subversives' war reports, but according to official reports which did not mention casualties on the government's side, since Monday more than 100 guerrillas have been killed. It is possible that among these are Commander Ines, niece of Valentin Solorzano, current minister of economy, and daughter of writer Alaeidi Foppa; as well as Cuban Commander "Jaime" and the Guatemalan Commander "Rolando."

A report issued today "somewhere on the Guatemalan plains," affirms that a 50-man guerrilla column is surrounded and immobilized on a distant hill near Chupol. The hill will be attacked by helicopter gunships as soon as the weather improves.

Some days ago, the guerrillas had answered the military patrols with medium-range mortars and Chinese candles. Military sources indicate that U.S.-made rifles, machineguns and shotguns of different makes, medicines, wind horns [cuernos o bocinas de viento] and radio transmitters having up to an 800-km range were seized from the subversives. The same military sources said that the weapons for the guerrillas now come into Guatemala through the Mexican border.

The armed forces found some caches or underground fortifications with food enough for 100 persons for 1 whole year. In some towns there were sewing shops in which the olive-green uniforms worn by guerrillas were made. The regular army's work has been hindered by many booby traps: deep holes filled with sharp Vietcong-style spikes.

According to the official report, aside from children and adolescents who have disclosed many of the subversives' codes to the army, some of the guerrilla deserters themselves -- such as former combatants "Lazaro" and "Haroldo" -- are the ones that are revealing details of rebels being trained in Cuba and arriving first in Panama with false passports, and about the racial indoctrination of Guatemalan Indians, who are reminded "they were the victims of plundering first under the Spanish conquerors and then the colonists."

Peasant collaboration with the guerrillas is achieved through local irregular forces (FIL) which exacerbate racial hatreds in a country like Guatemala, where almost 60 per cent of the population is Indian.

Aside from war actions going on in northern and western Guatemala, firemen keep making macabre and chilling findings of dozens of bodies which appear with throats slit, naked, strangled, hanged, riddled with bullets, ripped apart with machetes, with hands and feet off or beheaded.

GUERRILLAS BROADCAST ANTI-GOVERNMENT MANIFESTO

PA040222 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0045 GMT 4 Dec 81

[Text] Guatemala City, 3 Dec (ACAN-EFE) -- This afternoon several armed groups of the Poor People's Guerrilla Army took over four radio stations in Guatemala City to broadcast an antigovernment manifesto which included recorded statements by Emeterio Toj, a peasant leader and guerrilla.

The radio stations which were taken over are Tic-Tac, Exclusiva, Panamericana and Fabulosa (the key station of Cadena de Emisoras Unidas).

The armed groups of about 20 members each forced the station workers to abandon their positions and connected the revolutionary recordings to several bombs which were set to explode if someone tried to stop them from playing.

After the manifesto was on the air and the workers were locked up, the guerrillas fled the premises. The police did not apprehend the guerrillas, but they managed to deactivate the bombs.

Emeterio Toj was released from a military garrison in Guatemala city on 26 November after 4 months' imprisonment. Before his release, on 20 October, he explained to newsmen and the diplomatic corps how the Committee of Peasant Unity had been used by the guerrillas to fight against the army.

In the manifesto broadcast today, it was said that Emeterio Toj voluntarily surrendered to the army 4 months ago, and gave it such valuable information that on 26 November, by mutual agreement, he left the garrison where he had been staying in order to spy of the leftists.

CANADIAN EMBASSY DENIES REPORTED CLOSURE

PA031944 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 1230 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] The Canadian Embassy issued a press communique yesterday referring to reports that the embassy had been closed and all its personnel had been withdrawn.

The embassy communique states that the mission remains open and continues to offer normal services. Some international news agencies had reported that the Canadian diplomats had decided to leave the country due to death threats from rightwing clandestine groups.

HONDURAS

PAZ GARCIA CONGRATULATES PEOPLE ON FREE ELECTION

PA032015 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] The provisional president of the republic, in his capacity as chief of the armed forces, spoke last night via a radio and television network to recognize the victory of the Liberal Party last Sunday in a climate of freedom.

Anticipating the success of President-elect Roberto Suazo Cordova's term, Gen Policarpo Paz Garcia last night recongized the Liberal Part as the winner in last Sunday's election which were held in a climate of freedom. Here is the provisional chief of state's message:

[Begin recording] Fellow citizens: On 25 November from this place, in my condition as chief of the Honduran Armed Forces, I made a cordial appeal to all citizens to go to the polls with patriotic fervor and determination. I consider it my duty to address you on this historic occasion in roder to congratulate you for the example of true patriotism which you demonstrated to the world during the election for the nation's highest authorities held on 29 November. It is a duty I am highly pleased to fulfill because I feel proud to belong to a human group which knows how to exercise its citizen's rights with so much responsibility, decorum and patriotism.

I declare that I never doubted that the election would be conducted in a peaceful and orderly way. These sentiments were shared by the constitutional government which I am honored to head and by the armed forces commands which, inspired by the firm conviction, issued the pertinent regulations to guarantee the free expression of the people's will. I particularly wish to express my recognition to the national and department leaderships of the parties that participated in the 29 November election for their evident interest in having the elections conducted in accordance with the great democratic ideals that promote and guide the political process of our country.

Within a climate free of any restriction or impediment, a majority of the citizens expressed their support for the platform of the Liberal Party.

As a result they elected Dr Roberto Suazo Cordova president of the republic. He is a citizen of well-known personal qualities. I am pleased to express to him my deepest congratulations for having been entrusted with such an honorable mission by his fellow citizens.

Last Sunday's election is one of those unforgettable historic moments in which all sectors of the country make every effort to comply with their civic obligation. Such was the conduct observed by the government of the republic and all the members of the armed forces, to whom I reiterate my congratulations for this new example of their traditional discipline and for their loyalty to the sacred interests of the fatherland.

The political organizations also excelled by displaying conduct adjusted to the norms of honor and respect for the law, which characterized their rejection of any type of violence and their faith in the peaceful solution of the national problems. As president, I reserve my deepest admiration and sincere gratitude for the people of Honduras who went to the voting booths in an impressive demonstration of wisdom, good sense and patriotism. The polling places were the pedestal on which our fellow citizens proudly built a lasting monument to the nation's international prestige. Honduras has been distinguished with the crown of patriotism, placed there by its children who during the 29 November electoral race won glory and undying honor for Honduras.

Our people voted for peace, work and the harmonious coexistence of all Hondurans; as well as for economic, social and cultural development to be implemented through the institutional trends which oppose and reject violence, subversion and extremism that deny democracy, humankind and God. Those aspirations for which the Honduran people voted must be realized by the government elected on 29 November and by future governments.

The armed forces are determined to offer every possible support because the primary objective of our military has always been the promotion of the integral improvement of our people by raising them to higher levels of human dignity, material welfare and spiritual betterment.

I offer a moving and fraternal salute to all my fellow citizens who on 29 November taught the world an unforgettable lesson on sincere devotion to the principles of patriotism, the good will that brings people closer together and unbounded love for the sacred image of the fatherland. I salute you, people of Honduras.

NICARAGUA

STATE COUNCIL DEBATE EXTENDED; HOUSING LAW PASSED

PA032120 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] The Council of State held its penultimate session of its regular colegislative period. Many observers were present, among them Companera (Izyiak Lelia Pavlova), vice-president of the Council of Ministers of the Soviet Socialist Republic of Moldavia; a delegation of the Confederation of Venezuelan Workers headed by its Secretary General Rafael Leon; and Companero Francisco Astray, coordinating secretary of the Cuban Movement for Peace and Sovereignty of Peoples.

Those participating in the meeting were: Julio Ramon Garcia, delegate of the Social Christian Party; Omar Halum, delegate of the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement; and (Mario Oviedo Reyes) of the (Liberal Constitutionalist Movement). Commander Rafael Solis read a letter from the special commission studying the bill on political parties, asking for more time in which to issue a more profound analysis. The president of the council, Commander Nunez, reported that the extension has been granted.

[Begin Nunez recording] We have authorized the requested extension. At the same time, we have decided to let the president of the commission have the floor during tomorrow's final session so that he can give us more details on what the commission has been doing, and the scope of the law.

We have received a request from the group in charge of the dialogue with the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction to fix the right moment for the talks on the law on political parties. This extension means that the law on political parties will not be discussed at our regular sessions of the State Council. Therefore, we agreed that the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction will, in a special session [words indistinct] in a mature and realistic manner discuss the law of political parties [words indistinct] the work performed by the commission, and during the session of the State Council, so that the time will be fixed for the debate on such an important law. [end recording]

A vote was then taken on the bill for granting titles to confiscated housing areas. A delegation from these areas went to the council to follow closely the long debates, in which Housing Minister Miguel Ernesto Vigil participated, among others. The law was approved to the general satisfaction of those present.

Domingo Sanchez, "Chaguitillo," [member of the State Council] explained the details of the law:

[Begin recording] Companeros, this law was drafted after a long 15-year struggle. The group that is present here today has been struggling to obtain titles to their lots. The officials in charge, even though they had been paid for the total value of these lots, could not proceed further because of the illegal status of the lots. On 19 July, Commander Daniel Ortega said in his proclamation that he would give titles to the residents of the districts having an illegal status.

This is the law that we have approved today. In the first place, anyone who was living on his lot on 19 July 1981 will no longer have to make payments. The others, those who have another lot or house, will have to continue making payments, but will receive the 30-percent discount established by the Housing Ministry on September 1980.

This law solves the old problem of titles to the lots. It will also help because it eliminates the high prices set by the land developers. There is another important point. The companeros will be helped in the completion of the groundwork in their areas. This will be done through an official operation to be established by the Housing Ministry.

However, they will have the right to sue the land developers for any expenses they may incur for the improvement of their areas. It would not be fair for them to pay now, and not to be able to recover some of the expenses and the great harm done by the developers who merely sold the lots, without ever taking the trouble to provide services as specified by law.

[Question] About how many people will this law benefit?

[Answer] According to Housing Ministry figures, there were 57,000 cases who were occupying their lots on 19 July 1981. In general, about 250,000 families throughout the country will benefit from this revolutionary project. Only our Nicaraguan revolution could have achieved this. [end recording]

GOVERNMENT PUBLISHES DATA ON SOMOZIST PRISONERS

PA031652 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0103 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] Managua, 2 Dec (ACAN-EFE) -- The junta of the Nicaraguan Government of National Reconstruction has published a booklet containing the official list of 3,241 Somoquist prisoners sentenced by the special courts of Nicaragua.

The list was published by the Commission to Promote and Protect Human Rights, an organization established by the Nicaraguan Government at the request of the United Nations.

This long list of convicts gives their complete names and where they are incarcerated as well as the number of the special court that passed sentence.

This 55-page booklet is based on the official information which the commission received from the National Penitentiary System, an organization of the Interior Ministry.

At the same time that this booklet has been circulated nationally and internationally, the Managua newspaper LA PRENSA carries information from the Permanent Human Rights Commission, a private organization, saying that there is "little information" on the number of prisoners in the country.

DANIEL ORTEGA GREETES CUBA ON GRANMA ANNIVERSARY

PA031418 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, yesterday sent a message to Fidel Castro, president of the Cuban Councils of State and Ministers, on occasion of the 25th anniversary of the landing of the historic yacht, Granma. That landing was the beginning of the end for the Batista dictatorship and a decisive step toward the establishment of the first free territory in America.

The message hailed the heroic event and reiterated the Nicaraguan Revolutionary Government's identification with the liberation principles raised on that occasion by the Cuban revolutionaries. The landing of the Granma on Cuba's eastern coast on 2 December 1956 began the huge resurgence of the poor of America, who as Fidel Castro said, will never return to the past.

CUBAN PEACE MOVEMENT LEADER MAKING 7-DAY VISIT

PA031531 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] Central America and the Caribbean have the solidarity of the socialist camp, which will not remain impassive in the face of a U.S. aggression, Francisco Astray, secretary of the Cuban Movement for Peace and Sovereignty of Peoples, said today.

Astray made the statement at the end of the first part of the regular session of the State Council which he attended as an observer. The Cuban leader is making a 7-day visit to Nicaragua at the invitation of the Nicaraguan Peace Committee led by Commander Doris Tijerino Haslam.

Besides the socialist camp, our countries have the strength of the nonaligned, the international working class and the liberation movements, Astray added. He said that the main purpose of his visit to Nicaragua is to denounce the Reagan administration's aggression against Central America and the Caribbean, a policy that seriously threatens peace in the region and the world.

BRIEFS

SWEDEN DONATES WHEAT -- The people and Government of Sweden have donated 10,000 tons of wheat to Nicaragua. [Managua International Service in Spanish 0030 GMT 3 Dec 81 PA]

NEW COFFEE MARKETS -- This coming year Nicaragua will export 246,000 quintals of coffee to its new nontraditional markets, among them Czechoslovakia, Cuba, the USSR, the GDR, Bulgaria, and the United Arab Emirates. These sales will amount to more than \$35 million. [Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0312 GMT 2 Dec 81 PA]

FIDEL CASTRO CHAIRS FAR ANNIVERSARY CEREMONY

FL030249 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] A few minutes ago, a ceremony sponsored by mass and youth organizations in honor of the 25th FAR anniversary and Granma landing and chaired by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, was held at the Universal Hall of the FAR Ministry.

[Begin Roberto Veiga recording] Comrade Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of Cuba's Communist Party and president of the Councils of State and Ministers; Comrade Army Gen Raul Castro, second secretary of our party and minister of the FAR; comrade members of the Politburo and Central Committee; comrade guests; comrades sitting at the presidium; comrades all: During the days were were preparing the 10th congress of the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions, our capital hosted an impressive military parade. Subsequently, a comrade who sat at the stand of that parade approached our group and told us that when the troops marched before the stand, and when he observed the tanks, missiles and guns and all other powerful and effective means for the defense of the fatherland, he said the scene had extraordinarily impressed him.

He said he thought he was dreaming when he observed the army parading and felt that it was his army, the people's army, the workers' army. He finally said he had to remember the old days when the army was a tool of the bourgeoisie and the imperialists and was used to repress brutally the workers and peasants.

He who, with words cut short by the emotion, was conveying these emotions was beloved and unforgettable Comrade Lazaro Pena. [applause] [end recording]

Immediately after, Armando Acosta, national coordinator of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution, read a message sent by his organization and presented to Army Gen Raul Castro the 28 September Medal of his organization on behalf of its more than 4 million members.

Others honoring FAR were Jose Ramirez Cruz on behalf of the National Association of Small Farmers; Roberto Robaina on behalf of the youth organizations; and a speech by USSR Marshal of Aviation Aleksandr I. Koldunov; who read a message from Marshal Dimitriy Ustinov, USSR minister of defense. Speaking on behalf of FAR was Col Arnaldo Tamayo Mendez.

Guests Attend Reception

FL031153 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Excerpt] Our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the party, attended the reception held at the Palace of the Revolution that was given by the State Council on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Granma landing and of the creation of the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR].

Army Gen Raul Castro, second secretary of the party and FAR minister; other members and alternate members of the Politburo and the central committee; representatives of political and rank-and-file organizations; FAR commanders and officers; and USSR Marshal of Aviation Dimitriy Aleksandr I. Koldunov, member of the CPSU's Central Committee, deputy defense minister and commander in chief of the air defense forces, who is heading a high-level USSR military delegation to Cuba for the FAR celebrations, also attended the reception.

Soviets, Cubans Decorated

FL031435 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] Hours before FAR commemoration ceremony at the Palace of the Revolution, numerous Soviet chiefs, officials and military advisers were decorated with the Liberation War Fighter, Clandestine Struggle and International Fighter medals in a ceremony presided over by Army Gen Raul Castro. Also present at the ceremony were members of the Politburo, the Secretariat and the Central Committee, as well as Soviet military specialists.

Among those decorated with the Liberation War Fighter and Clandestine Struggle medals were division generals and alternate members of the Politburo Abelardo Colome Ibarra, Senen Casas Regueiro, and Sixto Batista Santana.

HAVANA NOTES HAIG, D'ESCOTO ST LUCIA MEETING

FL031403 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Excerpts] Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto has reminded Yankee Secretary of State Alexander Haig that the only foreign intervention that exists in El Salvador is that of the United States. D'Escoto and Haig met in Castries, the capital of St Lucia, where an OAS foreign ministers meeting began yesterday.

Talking with journalists after the meeting with Haig, d'Escoto stressed that the U.S. Government is the historical synonym of intervention. Nicaragua had its revolution precisely in order to stop interfering in the internal affairs of its neighbors.

He recalled that the U.S. puppet, Somoza, participated in the overthrow of the progressive government of Jacobo Arbenz in Guatemala and he also allowed Nicaraguan territory to be used so that the United States could launch a mercenary invasion against Cuba.

D'Escoto informed the journalists that he categorically rejected Mr Haig's allegations regarding the alleged Nicaraguan interference in El Salvador. He also said that the measures that the Nicaraguan Government is taking to strengthen its defenses are justified in view of the threats of U.S. aggression against the Sandinist revolution.

On his part, Haig also met with journalists after his meeting with d'Escoto and he insisted in accusing Cuba of maintaining 3,000 advisers in Nicaragua, 1,500 of them being alleged military advisers.

As is usual, the Yankee official provided no proof of any type regarding the alleged Cuban military presence in Nicaragua.

Hours before, a high-ranking U.S. military spokesman, who was not identified, had disseminated rumors regarding the alleged arrival in the very near future in Nicaragua of military jet planes -- a patent lie that could be an attempt to justify the naval blockage that the United States intends to impose on Nicaragua within a few months, according to a charge made by Tomas Borge.

On his part, the Surinamese foreign minister, who spoke in the name of the participating countries, lauded Peter Josie's speech and he said that it is very necessary to seek solutions to the area's urgent economic problems, otherwise there can be no political stability.

CEMA CENTRAL PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS MEETING OPENS

FL012156 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1904 GMT 1 Dec 81

[Text] The 12th conference of deputy chairmen of CEMA countries central planning bodies began today at Havana Palace of Conventions. The opening remarks were made by Central Planning Board Vice President Manuel Garcia, who heads the Cuban delegation to the meeting.

Garcia welcomed the representatives from Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Mongolia, Romania, Poland, the USSR and Czechoslovakia who are participating in the conference. He noted the importance that Cuba attributes to being host of the meeting and the high honor it represents for our country to welcome the deputy chairmen of central planning bodies of CEMA member countries.

The chiefs of the delegations attending the conference will report on their respective countries' accomplishments in that sphere of the economy. The agenda of the meeting, scheduled to end on 4 December, includes the discussion and adoption of topics taken up in meetings held by the experts this year. Finally, a report will be read on the work carried out by the conference during the 1979-81 period, and the participants will adopt the program of activities for the 1982-84 period, including the topics for the next 13 meetings. The agenda also includes the presentation of the program and probable date of the 13th conference of deputy chairmen of CEMA countries' central planning bodies as well as the final resolution of the present gathering.

GOVERNMENT TRADE TALKS WITH ETHIOPIA OPEN

FL032036 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] Official talks between the delegations of socialist Ethiopia and Cuba have opened in this capital, chaired by the ministers of foreign trade of the two countries, Wollie Chekol of Ethiopia and Ricardo Cabriza of Cuba. The Ethiopian minister will remain in our country until 5 December, and will meet with vice ministers and officials of the Foreign Trade Ministry to examine ways to develop bilateral trade.

BRIEFS

CTC OFFICIALS IN CANADA -- (Norbert Rodrigues), president of the National Trade Unions Confederation of Quebec, Canada, has received a delegation from the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions [CTC] led by Jesus Escandel. The meeting took place in a fraternal atmosphere. The CTC delegates attended the international trade union conference in solidarity with El Salvador held in Canada. [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1914 GMT 30 Nov 81 FL]

NETHERLANDS MAY PARTICIPATE IN U.S. AID PLAN

FLO32254 Bridgetown CANA in English 2252 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, 3 Dec (CANA) -- Dutch Ambassador to the Caribbean Eldred Maduro said here today that Holland could well be involved in the United States-initiated plan to improve the economic position of Latin America and the Caribbean. Speaking to newsmen here, the ambassador gave no firm commitment to being part of the plan, but indicated that Holland would continue to provide aid to the region.

The plan, as envisaged by Washington, calls for Mexico, Venezuela and Canada as well as the United States to provide economic assistance both on a bilateral and multilateral basis to the region.

Mr Maduro told reporters "probably we will be involved (in the so-called Caribbean Basin Plan) because Holland is one of the forerunners in aid.

"One of the points of our aid program is that it must be benefitting the grass roots people," he added. He said that Holland, which provides .99 percent of its gross national product (GNP) in aid, was not interested in providing assistance which would take a very long time to materialize. "We like to immediately react to aid demands," he said, adding that Holland would increase the level of assistance to the multilateral institutions within the region in coming years.

Asked about the Caribbean Basin initiative, he replied "even if we are not part of it we are donating a lot to those multi-lateral institutions." The ambassador said that while his country was trying to speed up aid to the region, one of the problems confronting Third World countries is the lack of trained staff to carry out major projects, with the result that some "projects take years to fulfill."

He said that Holland was not now providing bilateral assistance to any individual Caribbean island. He indicated that Dominica would soon be submitting for funding projects estimated at 1.2 million Dutch guilders, following discussions here with government officials. Mr Maduro said that such projects would mostly be related to the health sector, with assistance to the Princess Margaret Hospital being targeted at 500,000 Dutch guilders.

The ambassador said Holland was not like some donors who base their aid on political considerations. "If the people have got a government we don't like, it is too bad for the people, but we will not let them starve."

Mr Maduro, who spent 3 days on the island, met with government and other officials to discuss economic aid to the island describing his talks as "long and fruitful." While here he presented Dutch Consul Waddy Astaphan with an award for long service to the Dutch country, an award offered by the queen of Holland, Queen Beatrix.

BAHAMASPINDLING TO DISSOLVE PARLIAMENT, CALL ELECTIONS

FLO30149 Bridgetown CANA in English 2255 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] Nassau, Bahamas, 2 Dec (CANA) -- The Nassau GUARDIAN says Bahamas Prime Minister Lynden Pindling is expected to dissolve parliament upon the passage of the 1982 budget this month and call a general election for late February. The paper in a front page story said that between the passage of the budget and the date for election it is expected that the boundaries commission will convene to determine whether any additional constituencies might be created due to population shifts or increases.

Another seat is to be created in Grand Bahama, where the governing Progressive Liberal Party [PLP] has named an alternative candidate should such a seat be created.

An election in February will mean that the governing party will have dropped its plans for a constitutional referendum on citizenship, which even Prime Minister Pindling has conceded could split the electorate on bipartisan lines and would not necessarily be a party vote.

Government has completed its promised legislative program dealing with social issues and, besides the budget, has only one piece of legislation which it has promised, although not necessarily for this session of parliament, and that relates to time-sharing.

According to the GUARDIAN, political observers here feel that advantage of the momentum gained by the PLP during its annual convention in late October when the party revealed its entire slate of candidates, which excluded only two incumbents.

The official opposition Free National Movement (FNM) is in full election gear, although it has not yet announced sufficient candidates to form a government should a snap election be called.

The minority opposition Social Democratic Party (SDP) has disclosed that it will field only five candidates, hoping that the combined parliamentary opposition might win enough seats to form a coalition government.

The Socialist Vanguard Party has intimated that it will field a majority slate of candidate .

DOMINICA

OPPOSITION LEADER SAYS GOVERNMENT U.S. 'TOOL'

PA032018 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] (Bill Rivie), secretary general of the National Liberation Movement of Dominica, has charged in Havana that the government of Prime Minister Eugenia Charles is a tool of imperialism's policy of domination over the Caribbean.

In a press conference, (Rivie) said that the authorities of Dominica have expressed their support for Washington's expansionist plans and they launch harsh attacks against the revolutions of Cuba and Grenada.

(Rivie) said that the policy of turning over the country to the foreign monopolies and the local bourgeoisie has been a complete failure and has caused a crisis that can't be overcome. He denounced the government's repression against the national progressive movements and he indicated that Dominica's police receive assistance from the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency and weapons from the current Jamaican Government. He also condemned the U.S. campaign of aggression against Cuba, Grenada and Central America which are the result of the White House's panic over the unstoppable advance of the peoples of the region.

GRENADA

WHITEMAN ANNOUNCES GENERAL ELECTIONS SOON

FL030053 Bridgetown CANA in English 2149 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] Toronto, 2 Dec (CANA) -- Grenada's Foreign Affairs Minister Unison Whiteman has stated that general elections will be held in Grenada "in the very near future." In an interview broadcast on Toronto radio station, CHIN-FM, he said elections on the island should be seen in the context of an overall democratization of the society.

The leftist New Jewel Movement (NJM) government in St Georges came to power in a March 1979 coup, which also saw the constitution being suspended.

According to Mr Whiteman, the polls will follow approval of a new constitution which is to be submitted to a national referendum. "We do not believe that the present constitution is tailored to the needs of our situation," he said. The People's Revolutionary Government [PRG] official said a constitutional commission would be appointed shortly to work on the draft.

"Organizations and individual people in Grenada," he said, "will discuss the draft constitution with a view of making suggestions and proposals."

Mr Whiteman paid a recent visit to Toronto and was interviewed by radio announcer Jimmy Wong.

Speaking about Grenada's relations with the outside world, Whiteman said his government's policy was based very firmly on good neighborliness, friendship and cooperation, particularly with nations in the Caribbean region. "In this regard, Barbados, being close to us, is a natural friend. And so, of course, is Trinidad," the Grenadian minister said. He said Grenada's relations with Trinidad and Tobago went back to a long way. "The Grenadians were very helpful in building the oil industry. Most people in Trinidad have relatives in Grenada," Mr Whiteman said. He stated that the PRG would be pleased to strengthen these relations, both bilaterally and in the context of a regional integration movement.

BISHOP SENDS MESSAGE TO SEYCHELLES RENE

FL031650 Bridgetown CANA in English 1448 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, 3 Dec (CANA) -- Prime Minister Maurice Bishop of Grenada has sent a solidarity message to President Albert Rene of the Seychelles, following an attempted coup last week by a group of foreign mercenaries. Bishop said that his leftist People's Revolutionary Government (PRG) was profoundly happy that the country, which has a Marxist government, was able to repel the invasion and teach a lesson "to those international dogs of war and their masters in Pretoria."

When the attempted take-over failed most of the mercenaries hijacked an Indian airliner and fled to South Africa.

Bishop said that he felt the take-over bid was an effort to thwart the Seychelles economic and social achievements which have enraged what he called the worldwide enemies of freedom and justice. These enemies, he said, are enraged by the principled and non-aligned posture of the Seychelles, as well as its calls for the demilitarization of the Indian Ocean. "They are enraged that your struggle for peace and human dignity has earned your government international respect and tremendous popular support. This act of naked aggression against the Seychelles is proof of the determination of imperialism to destroy the democratic gains of your people and re-establish control over your country," said Bishop, whose government itself came to power in the Commonwealth Caribbean's first coup in March 1979.

EDUCATION DELEGATION RETURNS FROM CUBA

FL031555 Bridgetown CANA in English 1446 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, 3 Dec (CANA) -- A four-member delegation from Grenada's center for popular education has returned home following a 2-week visit to Cuba, it has been announced. They are Arden Slinger, Noama Charles, Allison Mitchell and Clara Clyne. The visit was undertaken to look at the central system of education in Cuba and in particular adult education. The center for popular education was launched last year by the People's Revolutionary Government (PRG) of Grenada with the aim of wiping out illiteracy.

GRENADA, GUINEA-BISSAU ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC TIES

FL031538 Bridgetown CANA in English 1458 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, 3 Dec (CANA) -- Grenada and the African state of Guinea-Bissau have established diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level, the government-run "Radio Free Grenada" said.

The radio reported last night that the two countries formalized ties when Ambassador Raul Conde presented his credentials yesterday to Grenada Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon.

It said that the ambassador, when presenting his credentials, told Sir Paul that it was the wish of the government and people of Guinea-Bissau that the establishment of diplomatic ties would serve as a stepping stone in the furthering of relations between the two countries. The radio said the governor-general expressed similar sentiments on behalf of the government and people of Grenada.

JAMAICA

'DAILY NEWS' WARNS ABOUT BEING USED AS 'MODEL'

FL032005 Bridgetown CANA in English 1658 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, 3 Dec (CANA) -- The Jamaica DAILY NEWS today warned the island to be wary of being held up by the United States as the "model" country for social and economic development in the region. Prime Minister Edward Seaga's government is a favorite of Washington because of its free enterprise philosophy, and the Reagan administration has been generously supporting Mr Seaga's effort at economic development. Washington's aim is for a successful Jamaica to persuade other countries in the region to follow a similar path.

The DAILY NEWS in its editorial said that all efforts to insure a better life for the people should be supported, but was concerned about the model-playing role. It recalled that in the 1950's Puerto Rico was held out in a similar vain, but had developed into "a dismal failure." "In fact, today, instead of being a model for development, Puerto Rico is characterized by a high level of dependency on its North American neighbor," the paper said. "Unemployment, drugs, destitution -- the very features from which we hope to escape -- are very much prominent feature of that society."

It said that Brazil, which was the showpiece of the International Monetary Fund, "despite impressive accounting figures," left much to be desired in terms of the quality of life for the majority of its people. That Iran, under the shah, was also a "model" for that region should not be forgotten, the DAILY NEWS said. "One has to be very wary of being used as a model. Too often these efforts turn sour," the paper added.

PNP ACCUSES U.S. OF INTERFERENCE IN ISLAND

FL040057 Bridgetown CANA in English 0041 GMT 4 Dec 81

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, 3 Dec (CANA) -- Jamaica's opposition People's National Party (PNP) today accused the United States of interference in the island's domestic affairs and said that the Reagan administration had a policy of fomenting terror in the Caribbean to justify its hostility against Cuba. The statement came in the party's official reaction to this week's story in NEWSWEEK magazine that the State Department, in a classified document, had accused Cuba of providing the PNP with U.S.-made M-16 rifles to attack supporters of the rival Jamaica Labor Party (JLP) during the campaign for the general elections here in October 1980.

The NEWSWEEK report said that the United States claimed that the M-16's were leftovers from Vietnam when the American Army fled that country in 1975. This, and other allegations of Cuban terrorism in Latin America, were to be used by U.S. Secretary of State General Alexander Haig at the Castries assembly of the Organization of American States to help build a common regional front against Cuba, NEWSWEEK said.

In an immediate reply to the allegation that his party had received arms from Cuba, PNP leader and prime minister at the time of the election, Michael Manley, described it as a "gross and vicious lie" aimed at creating an atmosphere for U.S. "warmongering and adventurism in the Caribbean."

Today's official party statement again condemned the allegation. "This statement is false and malicious and is another example of United States interference in the internal affairs of the Jamaican people," the PNP said. Other evidence of the Reagan administration's interference in Jamaica's internal affairs was its statement to congress of, according to the PNP, "its commitment to maintain the Seaga government in office."

That document the PNP referred to declared: "We have strong foreign policy reasons for supporting the (Jamaica economic) recovery effort.

If Prime Minister Seaga should fail, this would confirm in the Caribbean and other Third World eyes the hypothesis that cooperation with the IMF and stimulation of the private sector is a fruitless endeavour. Such a failure would have profound implications for our overall Caribbean basin strategy. The PNP accused the State Department and the Reagan administration of attempting to smear and discredit the party and other "progressive movements in the Caribbean by linking them with terrorism." Added the party: "It is part of a policy of fomenting terror in the Caribbean to justify the increasing acts of hostility against Cuba and in order to make the region more susceptible to United States dominations." The party, as Mr Manley had done in his initial statement, asked "from where had the guns come that had killed hundreds of PNP supporters and innocent bystanders during the last election campaign."

U.S. Embassy spokesman John Keller told CANA that the PNP reaction was based merely on a press report, the veracity of which the U.S. Government had not commented on. The U.S. State Department had acknowledged that it had done a report on alleged Cuban activities in Latin America, but said that it was not yet prepared to make the findings public. On the question of the Reagan document to congress implying interference in Jamaica's domestic affairs, Mr Keller said that it was stretching the interpretation if it was construed to mean that the United States was bent on maintaining the Seaga government in office. What the document did was to imply support for a process, Mr Keller said.

Prime Minister Edward Seaga's capitalist Jamaica Labor Party administration has been a favorite of the Reagan administration since it won the government from Manley's Democratic Socialist administration just over a year ago. Washington has been pumping economic assistance into Jamaica to ensure the success of Seaga's free enterprise policies in the hope that this island will be a successful litmus test that the rest of the region could follow.

MONTSERRAT

JOHN DUBLIN FIRED FROM CABINET POSTS TODAY

FL030058 Bridgetown CANA in English 2253 GMT 2 Dec 81

[Text] Plymouth, Montserrat, 2 Dec (CANA) -- Montserrat's Deputy Chief Minister and Minister of Health and Welfare John Dublin was sacked today. An official announcement on the state-owned radio said the governor of this British island colony acting on the advice of the chief minister had revoked Dublin's appointment. No reason was given and Chief Minister John Osborne was not immediately available for comments.

ST VINCENT

UPM LEADER CHARGES CATO CREATING DICTATORSHIP

FL031202 Bridgetown CANA in English 0945 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] Kingstown, St Vincent, 3 Dec (CANA) -- Leader of the United People's movement (UPM) Dr Ralph Gonsalves, has charged that "the Milton Cato regime is bent on creating a dictatorship." Gonsalves made the charge while addressing a public meeting here of the UPM.

According to the UPM leader, the Cato administration is carrying out, what he termed, "wicked and undemocratic actions beyond the reaches of the Vincentian masses." He charged that "Cato is trying to have St Vincent police and personnel trained in South Korea, where he added, the worst form of torture is being pursued. The recent purchase of a coastal patrol craft, is another manifestation of the government's autocratic rule," he said. Stating that "the economy is in shambles, Gonsalves said that only a UPM rule can reverse the current situation.

DOMINICAN REPUBLICSUGARMILL PLACED UNDER MILITARY CONTROL

PA031709 Buneos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0114 GMT 3 Dec 81

[Text] Santo Domingo, 2 Dec (LATIN-REUTER) -- The government of President Antonio Guzman today confronted a strike by 45,000 sugar workers by putting 1 of the 12 state sugarmills under military control and by warning that the government will apply strong measures to guarantee the progress of the sugar harvest which is now paralyzed.

The deployment of army troops around the Ozama sugarmill, where the harvest began 1 week ago, came a few hours after its workers went on strike in response to a call made by a committee that groups 68 labor unions.

Approximately 45,000 workers have obeyed the strike call made yesterday, Tuesday, demanding that the State Sugar Council (CEA) give them, without delay, a bonus equaling the wages for 45 days "without reductions of any kind."

The CEA announced today that it has no intention of reducing the bonus promised to the workers and declared that there is no justification for the paralyzation of sugarmills when harvest time is imminent.

Manuel Ledesma Perez, CEA industrial relations manager, has warned that lawful measures will be applied against workers who persist in boycotting the sugar harvest.

Meanwhile, Nestor Julio Encarnacion, one of the leaders of the committee that coordinates the actions of the workers, said this evening that the workers might decide tomorrow on an indefinite extension of the strike.

The workers did not talk with the CEA representatives today and announced that tomorrow all the labor unions will meet to decide on what actions to take to face the CEA intention of "cheating us out of our benefits."

The CEA has reaffirmed its decision to pay the equivalent of wages earned in 45 workdays during the 160-day sugar harvest to workers who complete 40-hour weeks. A proportionate amount would be paid to those who work only Saturdays and Sundays.

The workers, however, have charged that the CEA is making its estimate on the basis of workdays and not on the total number of days of the harvest period. This is the reason for the impasse.

HAITIDUVALIER PURPORTEDLY TARGET OF FAILED ATTACK

FLO31115 Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 25 Nov 81 p 1

[Excerpt] THE TRIBUNE was unable today to officially confirm reports that Haitian President-for-Life Jean-Claude Duvalier was shot in the leg during an assassination attempt at his ranch Port-au-Prince Sunday morning.

The claim was made by the Partie Populaire National Haitien [PPNH] in Miami yesterday. Today, the American Embassy in Nassau could not confirm the incident and no information was received over the wire services about any shooting in Haiti.

Party member Paul Sylvester said that the PPNH was able to "confirm the attempted assassination" because the party has a strong underground network. He said his party was in no way involved with the purported assassination attempt.

On Monday, PPNH members and supporters held a 3-hour demonstration outside the Miami offices of WTVJ-channel 4 to protest the broadcasting of Duvalier's "message" to Haitians living in Miami. Demonstrators said Duvalier's statements were "propaganda."

SURINAME

GOVERNMENT 27TH TO RATIFY IICA CONVENTION

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[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, 3 Dec (CANA) -- Suriname became the 27th country to ratify the convention of the Inter-American Institute for Agricultural Cooperation (IICA), according to a release from the Organization of American States. Ambassador Henricus Heidweiller of Surinam deposited the instrument of ratification of the convention, 1 which went into effect last December.

Heidweiller praised IICA during a brief ceremony at OAS headquarters here as one of the OAS specialized agencies "which completes the work of the mother organization."

OAS Secretary General Alejandro Orfila added that the work of such agencies "justifies the faith of the member countries in this organization."

Francisco Marillo Andrade, who will assume directorship of IICA next 15th January, expressed his assurance that "ratification of Suriname will guarantee agricultural cooperation and the exchange of information" between that country and IICA in its efforts to develop agriculture throughout the region.